

WHERE DOES THE BIBLE SAY SO?

By Keith Greer

A few years ago I was teaching a class at Indian Springs Prison in Nevada. We were discussing the kingdom. Our discussion concerned the teachings of men who say the kingdom is yet to be established. Is the kingdom here? If not, when will it be established?

During the discussion I tried to show that the kingdom was promised in prophecy. John said it was near. Jesus said it will come with power. People were translated into it in the days of the apostles. John the apostle was a member of it.

One young Pentecostal friend I made while doing these classes came in near the end of the discussion, when I was making a summary. He just shook his head and laughed. When I asked if there were any questions his hand shot up. He asked, "Where does the Bible say that the kingdom is in existence now"? He believed it was yet to come during the great "tribulation" when the Lord returns to the earth. Here was my answer...

"When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. " {2 Samuel 7:12,13}

"Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption." {Acts 2:30,31} Fulfilled.

"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed {Daniel 7:13,14}

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, ... " {Acts 1:9,10}

"Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." {Hebrews 9:23,24} Fulfilled

"Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. {Hebrews 9: 12} Fulfilled.

"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, " {Colossians 1: 13} Will we be translated into it "later"?

"Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power." {1 Corinthians 15:24} How can He give something to His Father He hasn't yet established?

"And He said to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power'. " {Mark 9: 1} Please read Acts 1:8; 2:1-4. Is anyone in the world today, living, over 2,000 years old?

"I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom ..." {Revelation 1: 9} Which kingdom is that? What do you think? Is it still to come? He left without a word...***