

Name: _____ Address: _____

Bible Correspondence Course

Lesson #5: The Kingdom of God on Earth

Free Booklet Offer: See page 6

Please carefully read the enclosed Lesson, **The Kingdom of God on Earth**, and the Bible Readings listed below. Answer the questions on this worksheet according to the Lesson and/or the Bible verses indicated. The author of the Booklet has used the King James Version of the Bible but you may fill in the blanks from the version of your choice, and make any necessary changes.

And they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the Kingdom to Israel?" **Acts 1:6**

READINGS:

- Exodus 19:5-6; 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Psalms 2, 72, 89 & 110
- Isaiah 2:1-4, 9:6-7, 11:1-11 & Chapters 35, 60-66
- Ezekiel 11:14-20, 21:26-27 & Chapters 34-38; Daniel 2
- Matthew 24:29-51 & 25:31-46; Mark 1:4, 14-15; Luke 1:30-33; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

1. God tells us in **Isaiah 45:18** that he did not form the earth in vain, but rather in order that it should be _____.
2. God intends to fill the world with beauty and divine goodness. In **Habakkuk 2:14** God declares — "the earth shall be _____ with the _____ of the _____ of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."
3. Name 6 components which make up a real Kingdom (*Page 1 of the Lesson lists four; see if you can think of two more.*):

4. In **Matthew 6:9-13** Jesus teaches us to ask God to establish His Kingdom on Earth — "Thy _____ come. Thy will be done on _____ as it is in heaven."
5. According to **Mark 16:19**, where is the Lord Jesus Christ at the present time? _____
6. Speaking of his return from heaven in **Matthew 25:31-32**, the Lord Jesus Christ says — "When the Son of man shall _____ in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the _____ of his glory: and before him shall be gathered _____."
7. In **2 Timothy 4:1**, the apostle Paul places the establishment of the Kingdom at the time of Jesus' coming when he speaks of ". . . the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his _____ (coming) and his _____."

The Kingdom of God in the Past

8. a) According to **Exodus 19:5-6**, God established a special relationship with the people of Israel after they had been delivered from Egypt. God declared that Israel was — "... a _____ of priests and an holy _____."
- b) It is important to realize that the ancient nation of Israel was in fact The Kingdom of God on earth. God's Kingdom was located in the land of Israel, which was the land promised to Abraham's descendants in Genesis 15:18. The capital city of Israel was the city of _____ (See: 2 Chronicles 6:6), and the Jews worshipped at the temple located in that city. The nation of Israel was governed by God until the time came when the people rejected God as their king and human kings¹ were appointed to rule over them. However, the throne on which these kings ruled was known as "the throne of the Lord" because God was their true king, and the kingdom of Israel was subject to God's law, which at that time was later known as the Law of _____ (See: Luke 24:44).
9. a) In **1 Chronicles 28:5**, at the coronation of his son Solomon, King David, who reigned over God's Kingdom of Israel says — "God hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the _____ of the _____ forever . . ." And in the **next chapter (v 23)** we are told that — "Solomon sat upon the _____ of the _____ as king instead of David his father."
- b) The same language is used in **2 Chronicles 13:8**. Solomon's grandson Abijah challenges a rival to the throne, Jeroboam, who was not a descendant of David, and says to him — "And now ye think to withstand the _____ of the _____ in the hand of the sons of _____."
10. Why did God bring an end to the ancient Kingdom of God ?
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The Kingdom of God in the Future

11. After Jesus was raised from the dead, he spoke to his disciples for forty days about the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). Before he ascended to heaven, the disciples asked him in **Acts 1:6** — "Lord, wilt thou at this time _____ again the _____ to Israel?"
12. The disciples were taught by Jesus that he was going to return to earth to restore the Kingdom of God. Once again, the Kingdom of God would be on earth. This time however, the Jewish people accept the king God has appointed for them, the Lord Jesus Christ. In **Luke 1:32-33** the angel Gabriel declares to Mary that — ". . . the Lord God will give to him (Jesus) the _____ of his father _____, and he shall reign over the _____ of _____ forever and of his _____ there shall be _____." What would the phrase, house of Jacob, have meant to Mary _____ ? (*Hint: What was Jacob's other name? See: Genesis 35:10*).
13. a) When Gabriel tells Mary that God will give her son, Jesus, "the throne of his father David," the angel is referring back to a promise that God made to this famous ruler of the ancient Kingdom of Israel a _____

¹ See: 1 Samuel 8-31, 2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, and 1&2 Chronicles.

thousand years before Mary's time, as recorded in **2 Samuel 7:13** — "I will _____ the throne of _____ Kingdom _____" and again in **verse 16** — "thy _____ shall be _____ forever"

b) David is told that long after he dies, one of his descendants will again reign on his throne over Israel. In **verse 14**, David is told that this great king, later called the Messiah, would be the son of _____ Himself. According to the verses quoted above in 9(a), for how long would this great king reign? _____

14. From the time of David, the theme of the coming great king, is continually developed and expanded by psalmists and prophets. **Psalm 89** emphasizes that the Messiah, or "Anointed one"², would be a descendant of _____ (**verses 35-37**) and at the same time Son of _____ (**verse 26**). The prophecies of the Messiah's coming were fulfilled with the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ³, who is both the descendant of David and the Son of God, however Jesus has not yet sat on the throne of David.

15. a) According to **2 Chronicles 6:6**, what city has God chosen and for what purpose?

b) According to **2 Chronicles 33:4**, God said, "in _____ shall my _____ be _____."

c) According to Jesus in **Matthew 5:35**, Jerusalem is the — " _____ of the great _____."

16. Read **Psalm 2**. It is a good example of a Messianic psalm.

a) Which key word in **verse 2** indicates that this psalm is about the Messiah? _____

b) In **verse 6**, where does God say He will place His king? _____
This city, which exists today, is more commonly known as _____.

c) Who is the Messiah going to rule over? _____

d) What two metaphors in **verse 9** describe the force the Messiah will impose upon the nations?

17. Read **Isaiah 2:1-4**.

a) According to **verse 3**, which city is described as the future center of authority?

b) Where will the peoples and nations come up to? _____

c) For what purpose? _____

d) Whose law will be obeyed in all the world? _____

e) According to **verse 4**, how shall the practices of the nations change?

f) According to **verse 2**, when will all these things come about? _____

² This coming king is also called "Messiah", meaning "anointed one" which refers to the Israelite practice of pouring olive oil on the head of a new king. (See: *1 Samuel 16:1, 13 & Daniel 9:25-26*)

³ Jesus' common title in the New Testament, "Christ," is simply the Greek word meaning "anointed" and therefore equivalent to the Hebrew term Messiah (See: *John 1:41*). Jesus fulfilled some of the predictions about the Messiah during his first appearance and will fulfill the rest when he returns from heaven.

18. According to **Revelation 5:10** and **20:4**, the immortal rulers of God's Kingdom will reign on the _____ for a _____ years.
19. According to **Zechariah 14:16**, the mortal population of the nations in the Kingdom age "shall even go up (i.e. to Jerusalem) from year to year to _____ the _____, the LORD of Hosts ... "
20. According to **Matthew 19:28**, what did Jesus promise to the 12 apostles?
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21. Read **Isaiah 11:1-10**

- a) How can we know for sure that Isaiah is prophesying about Jesus Christ? (**Hint:** Verses 1 and 10 refer to Jesse. Who was Jesse and how is he related to Jesus? See: Acts 13:22-23)
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- b) How will the LORD equip his king to rule the world? _____
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- c) Which characteristics of the Kingdom does this chapter emphasize?
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- d) Will the benefits of the Messiah's rule be limited to the nation of Israel? Which verse gives us the answer? _____
- e) The second part of **Isaiah 11:9** is similar to the declaration mentioned previously in this worksheet according to the word of the prophet, _____.⁴

22. Read **Psalms 72**, a Messianic psalm.

- a) According to this psalm, how long will the Messiah live? _____
- b) How far will his Kingdom extend? _____
- c) What will be the characteristics of his Kingdom? _____
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God's New Covenant – Old and New Testament Teaching

READINGS: Jeremiah 3:17-22, 23:5-8, 31:31-37 and 33:14-16

23. a) Read **Jeremiah 31:31-37**. God here promises to make with Israel a covenant unlike the one he had made with them when he took them out of the land of _____, a covenant which they _____. Instead he promises to make a _____ covenant with them.

Does the phrase "a new covenant" remind you of something you have come across while reading of the ministry of Jesus? Try looking at the words of Jesus at the Last Supper as recorded in **Luke 22:20** or **1 Corinthians 11:25**.

What similar phrase do we find? _____

⁴ There are many more beautiful passages about the Kingdom of God in Isaiah 35 and in Isaiah chapters 60-66.

Depending on the version of the Bible you are using, you may find the term "testament" instead of "covenant." In fact the two terms mean the same thing in this case, but the more usual word in the Bible is "covenant." When we refer to the second and smaller division of the Bible as the New Testament, we really mean to say the New Covenant, which was announced by Jeremiah and fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ.

- b) **Jeremiah 31** applies the new covenant to the Jews only. Later we come to understand that the scope of this same covenant will be widened to include the non-Jews, or _____. We have already seen something similar about the Kingdom of God: that though it initially applied to Israel, it too will include non-Jews.

The agreement between the new covenant of Jeremiah and the new covenant in Jesus' blood is suggested by **Jeremiah 31:34**. In the second part of this verse we discover the essence of the new covenant when God says about Israel — ". . . for I will _____ their _____ and I will _____ their _____."

Several threads of Bible teaching from the Old Testament come together in **the New Testament** when Jesus begins to preach the "_____ of the _____ of _____." (See: *Mark 1:14; Luke 8:1*). This gospel, meaning "good news" or "glad tidings," revolves around the call to repentance and baptism for the forgiveness (remission) of sins as the only way by which an individual, whether he be Jew or Gentile, may gain eternal life and entrance into the future Kingdom of God on earth (See: *Mark 1:4,15; Acts 2:38*).

- c) The fact that the promise of life in the Kingdom is an extension to the Gentiles of a promise initially made to Israel, is one of the reasons why the Saviour of the world had to be a Jew, and why Jesus proclaims in **John 4:22** — "salvation is of the _____."

Unfortunately, the fact of the gospel's dependence on Jewish promises and a Jewish Saviour is frequently neglected or misunderstood, and consequently the Bible teaching about the Kingdom of God on earth has been replaced by other, non-biblical teachings about the reward of the righteous.

Review and Conclusion

Hints:

24. a) Where was the Kingdom of God located in the past? _____ Q#8b
 b) Who reigned over it? _____ Q#8b
 c) Which city was its capital? _____ Q#8b
25. a) Where will the Kingdom of God be located in the future? _____ Q #12
 b) Who will rule over it? _____ Q #12
 c) Which city will be its capital? _____ Q#15
26. Which two groups of people will inhabit the Kingdom of God? _____ Q 18 & 19
 _____ and _____ or pg. 5 of lesson

27. According to the evidence of the Bible verses presented in the Lesson or in this Worksheet, describe some of the changes that the Kingdom of God will bring to the world in the following areas:

- government _____
- laws _____
- strife _____
- justice _____
- moral standards _____
- living standards _____
- human lifespan for mortal population _____

28. The prophet Daniel in **Daniel 2** contains a unique prophecy of the advent of the Kingdom of God. The great King Nebuchadnezzar dreamt of an image of a man, made of four metals, which was finally destroyed. Daniel identified the dream as a prophecy of the day (Probably the days we are living in) in which human governments would be replaced by God's dominion.

Daniel 2:44 — "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a _____ , which shall never be _____ ; . . . and it shall stand _____ ."

29. Read **1 Corinthians 15:24-28**.

- a) Christ will reign until when? _____
- b) What is the last enemy to be destroyed? _____

30. At the return of the Lord Jesus, may we hear the words he will direct to the faithful as recorded in **Matthew 25:34** — "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the _____ prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' "

Congratulations on completing this lesson! Many students find this one especially challenging. If there is anything in this lesson that you have questions or comments about, please write them out below, and we'll do our best to respond. If for any reason you have a different understanding about what the Bible teaches concerning the Kingdom of God, please feel free to let us know so that we can help each other to come to a fuller understanding of God's truth. Please remember to write **your name and address** on the top of the first page and return your completed worksheet to:

If you would like to receive a free booklet entitled ***Christ is Coming*** please check this box.

Your Comments/Questions/Notes
