

## END TIMES - When The Kingdom Has Come!

**[SLIDE 1]**

### IF IT WERE IN YOUR POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD TO A BETTER PLACE, WHAT CHANGES WOULD YOU MAKE?

- HEALTH – no diseases
- SECURITY – no war, no crime, don't even have to lock your door!
- MORALITY – TV, magazines, ungodly lifestyles
- GOVERNMENT – no corruption or ungodly laws
- POVERTY – no-one starving or going without
- ENVIRONMENT – healthy air, water, no drought

*BUT concerning many of these things there are significant hurdles to be overcome:*

- Different STANDARDS OF RIGHT AND WRONG
- Different RELIGIONS
- Different AGENDAS
- PRIDE / SELFISHNESS / THIRST FOR POWER

*There would have to be*

- INCREDIBLE CHANGES
- NEW MIND SET
- ONE STANDARD / AGENDA / ONE KINGDOM

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT SUCH A WORLD COULD COME INTO BEING? **[SLIDE 2]**

In the teaching of the Bible, such things are not only possible but absolutely guaranteed to come!

**Jesus taught His disciples to pray [SLIDE 3]**

***[Mat 6:9-10] "...Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.***

**Your KINGDOM come!**

**An interesting request indeed!**

**What are we actually praying for?**

**While it is true that *the Kingdom of God is within those who believe in Christ*, the KINGDOM we pray about in the Lord's Prayer, is the KINGDOM to COME upon the Earth when Jesus Christ returns. And this KINGDOM lasts for 1000 years, hence it is referred to as the MILLENNIAL KINGDOM. [SLIDE 4]**

Before Jesus comes again, visibly and physically, the world will know a terrible time of trial and judgment, referred to by Jesus as the time of **TRIBULATION.**

**But when He comes, all that will pass away and MARVELLOUS THINGS will take place.**

I want to share some of these with you this morning!

**1. The Bible gives us some clues as to the SPLENDOUR OF JESUS coming as KING to the City of Jerusalem. [SLIDE 5]**

The OT Prophet, Ezekiel, speaks of the GLORY of GOD entering through the EAST GATE and coming to the TEMPLE.

**READ: Ezek 43:1-2 & 4-7**

This is of particular significance because the East Gate has been sealed shut for centuries and both Jews and Christians believe only Messiah can come through the gate. [SLIDE 6]

**Website: The Mount Of Olives tells us**

From the vantage point of the **Mount of Olives**, the East Gate (sometimes referred to as the Golden Gate, or the Gate of Mercy) is clearly inaccessible and blocked shut. In mid-1500s after the Ottoman conquest of Israel, the existing walls around the Old City were erected by Sultan Suleiman (the "Magnificent")... At that time, the sheik ordered a Muslim cemetery placed directly in front of the

East Gate postulating that... the High Priest could not enter through the East Gate given that a High Priest was not permitted to touch the dead...

The East Gate has held special interest with Jews, Christians and Muslims as the place of final Judgment... Jews identify Messiah's arrival with the East Gate, Muslims place God's final judgment at this location, and Christians link Christ's entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and second coming with this Gate.



**Another part of the wonder of all this is that Ezekiel also tells us:**

**READ: Ezekiel 44:2**

Some commentators argue this refers to the triumphal entry of Christ on Palm Sunday. While the NT Gospels do not specifically mention the East Gate, Jesus entered Jerusalem from the East. **[SLIDE 7]**

2. **A REMARKABLE RIVER** will commence to flow from under the threshold of the TEMPLE

**READ: Zech 14:8-9**

**READ: Ezek 47:1, 5, 7-11**

**READ: Psalm 46:4-11**

In Dan 12:11-12, Scripture suggests that there will be an interval of some 75 days between the Lord's return and the establishment of the MILLENNIAL KINGDOM. **[SLIDE 8]**

3. During this period, it would seem the **NATIONS WILL BE JUDGED**. (Matt 25:31-34, 41 & 46)

**At the end of this judgment, two groups enter the KINGDOM from that JUDGMENT:**

- JEWISH BELIEVERS
  - (Rom 11:25-27; Eze 20:40) who have accepted Christ as their MESSIAH-KING
- GENTILE BELIEVERS
  - (Matt 24:13 one who “endures to the end”)

- There will also be the host of ‘GLORIFIED SAINTS’ who have returned with Christ or been raised at His return

The 1<sup>st</sup> two groups [JEWISH and GENTILE believers] will be constituted of ‘normal’ people, who have not died and have not received glorified bodies. They will carry on their lives just as at any time in history, except for the presence of righteousness in place of sin. They will marry, have families, hold jobs, and die, as generation follows generation through the extended thousand-year time. |

[SLIDE 9]

4. There will be a NEW GOVERNMENT over the whole earth with CHRIST ruling as the perfect King and BELIEVERS REIGNING with Him

*At this time, a whole series of PROPHECIES with which many of us are familiar, will finally come to pass:*

First there is that wonderful PROMISE JESUS MADE AT THE LORD’S SUPPER:

**(Mat 26:27-29)** He told His disciples, *“Drink from it, all of you. for this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. “But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.” [SLIDE 10]*

And the PROMISE OF AN EVER-LASTING KINGDOM

**(Dan 7:13-14 NKJV)** *“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.*

***(Isa 9:6-7) For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. [SLIDE 11]***

**And SAINTS SHALL REIGN WITH HIM**

***(Rev 20:4 NKJV) And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.***

***(Mat 19:27-29) Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.***

***(2 Tim 2:12 NKJV) If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. [SLIDE 12]***

## **5. ISRAEL RESTORED**

***Establishment of the BOUNDARIES of ISRAEL***

***Gen 15:18*** tells us the boundaries will be from the Nile to the Euphrates. This has NEVER been achieved in the history of Israel

## REGATHERING OF ISRAEL Completed

**READ: Isa 11:10-12**

the dispersed...from the 4 corners of the earth

## REGENERATION of ISRAEL

**READ: Jer 31:31-33**

## FAVOURED NATION STATUS

**READ: Zech 8:22-23**

Upon EARTH, there will be things not witnessed before among people: [SLIDE 13]

## 6. A DIFFERENT WORLD TO LIVE IN

### HOLINESS

*(Zec 14:20)* Holiness will characterise society

### PEACE

*(Isa 2:2-4)* Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the

*hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore [SLIDE 14]*

### ENVIRONMENT

**Isa 35:1-12**

### JUSTICE

**Isa 11:3-5**

### LONGEVITY

**READ: Isa 65:20-25**

### WILD ANIMALS –no longer wild

**READ: Isa 11:6-9**

And you think this is not possible?

Have a look at this DVD clip **[PLAY DVD here]**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ev7oLCwD3ME>

**AND, this KINGDOM LASTS for 1000 years!**

(Rev 20:2-7 where 1000 years in mentioned 6 times

**[SLIDE 15] WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN TO US?**

**THE GENERAL MESSAGE IS:**

1. God's AUTHORITY will be recognised IN ALL THE EARTH

**HE IS the ONLY TRUE GOD!**

2. God's PROMISES will all BE FULFILLED

**HE IS FAITHFUL!**

3. EVIL will NOT TRIUMPH

**GOD IS SOVEREIGN!**

4. This KINGDOM leads into ETERNITY

**THIS IS AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM!**

**[SLIDE 16]**

**THE PERSONAL MESSAGE to US is:**

1. KEEP FAITH IN GOD!
2. KEEP SERVING!
3. KEEP LOVING!
4. KEEP GOING!
5. KEEP SHARING!
6. KEEP WATCHING!

**THE BEST IS YET TO COME!**