

The King is Coming – Part One

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6-7

If you were looking for one concise place in the Bible that gives a tremendous amount of information about Jesus Christ, then this passage would probably be top on the list. In only two verses we see:

- His humanity and deity declared – ***“a child is born” / “a son is given”***
- His ability to amaze and bless us – a worker of miracles – a minister of grace and truth – ***“Wonderful”***
- His wisdom and guidance – His desire to stand alongside us and to be attentive to our needs – ***“Counselor”***
- The confirmation of what Isaiah 7:14 declares – that He is *“Immanuel”* (*“God with us”* – Matthew 1:22-23) – ***“The mighty God, The everlasting Father”***
- That He is a ruler who will create and maintain peace – starting with giving us peace with God (Romans 5:1) – ***“The Prince of Peace”***

Though the word “King” does not appear in this passage. Yet, the subject of Christ’s kingdom is the largest discussion in these two verses.

- He shall take on all authority and power – ***“And the government shall be upon His shoulder.”***
- His kingdom shall be marked by stability and growth. He shall govern a population who experience extraordinary peace – ***“Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.”***
- His earthly lineage comes from King David – ***“Upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom.”***
- His administration is formed by deliverance from evil and will eternally operate by truly righteous standards – ***“To order it, and to establish it with judgement and with justice from henceforth even forever.”***
- The passion of the LORD is dedicated to bringing this order and peace back into God’s universe – ***“The zeal of the LORD of hosts (armies) will perform this.”*** (*“Zeal”* – The Hebrew word means *“to get red in the face with war-like fervor, revenge, jealousy”*)

Here are two other Old Testament Scriptures that declare Jesus Christ as king.

- “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter.” (**Psalms 45:6**). This passage is attributed to Jesus Christ in Hebrews 1:8.
- “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting” (**Micah 5:2**). This passage is attributed to Christ, at the time of His birth (Matthew 2:1-6).

Here are two other Scriptures that mention the increase of His kingdom:

- **Daniel 2:31-45** – In verses 34-35,44, Christ’s kingdom is described as a stone, cut without human hands, hurled at an image that represents the kingdoms of this world (The times of the Gentiles – Luke 21:24). All other kingdoms are conquered by this divine stone, which, after destroying the image of the kingdoms, becomes a mountain that fills the earth. This kingdom lasts forever.
- **Matthew 13:31-32** – Jesus compares His kingdom to a mustard seed which is the smallest of seeds, but when planted becomes the greatest of herbs. It grows into a tree that the birds can use to make their homes, in its branches.

As the kingdom of Christ increases, it will take on different forms. There are three phases to this kingdom that will be discussed throughout this series.

1) A spiritual Gospel kingdom (John 3:3-8; 18:36-37); **2)** An earthly Millennial kingdom (Revelation 20:1-15); **3)** An eternal kingdom (Revelation 21:1-5 – New heaven, New earth, New Jerusalem).

These three phases help us see Christ’s kingdom increasing like a crescendo. <a href=<http://www.northlandbiblechurch.com/Crescendo.pdf> target=”_blank”>Click to see diagram. For now we must state a few things about the spiritual Gospel kingdom.

- Those who would comprehend this kingdom and enter into it must be born again – born with a second, spiritual birth (John 3:3-8; I Peter 1:18-25).
- Christ’s kingdom is not a geographical location. It exists right in the midst of other people and their earthly kingdoms (Luke 17:20-21).
- Christ’s kingdom is known by those who know and love the truth (Mark 12:32-34; John 18:37).
- Christ’s kingdom cannot be established or defended with earthly weapons or with earthly methods of warfare (John 18:36; II Corinthians 10:3-5).