

The Kingdom of Christ

Introduction:

- A. The basic premise upon which those who try to apply Old Testament prophecies to current events in the Middle East operate is that the purpose of Christ's return is to set up a material kingdom on this earth.

The purpose of Christ's return to the Mount of Olives will be to establish Jerusalem as the capital of His new world kingdom. The law will once more go forth from Zion. (Isa. 2:3)
(Dr. John F. Walvoord, **Armageddon, Oil and the Middle East Crisis** [1990 edition]. 195)

- B. Thus, to see whether or not the claims being made concerning the Middle East crisis and biblical prophecies are true, we must understand the Old Testament prophecies concerning the kingdom of Christ.

- C. Proposition: The Scriptures teach that the kingdom of Christ of Old Testament prophecy was established on the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection, that it is the church of Christ, that it is spiritual in nature, and that you may be a citizen of it now.

- I. The kingdom of Christ of Old Testament prophecy was established on the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection.

- A. Proof - Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 3:1-2; Mark 1:14-15; Mark 9:1; Acts 1:6-8; Acts 2:1-4

- B. What about a future kingdom? - Hebrews 12:22-23,28

- II. The kingdom of Christ of Old Testament prophecy is the church of Christ. - Matthew 16:13-10; Hebrews 12:22-23,28

- III. The kingdom of Christ of Old Testament prophecy is spiritual rather than material in nature. - Luke 17:20-21 (The kingdom of Christ is the rule of Christ within the hearts of His people.); John 18:36; Romans 14:17

- IV. You may be a citizen of the kingdom of Christ of Old Testament prophecy now. - Revelation 1:9 (AD 64-96); 1 Thessalonians 2:12 (AD 50); Acts 2:47 (AD 30)

Conclusion:

- A. The greatest honor you can have on this earth is to be a citizen of the kingdom of Christ. - Matthew 11:11

- B. You can become a citizen of that kingdom now. - John 3:3,5

- C. Will you not meet the requirements of citizenship today?