

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Kingdom Has Come

When Christ was with the Jews during their ministry, they frequently referenced a physical kingdom that would rise up from the ashes of the once great nation of Israel. We frequently speak of the Jews' mistaken concept of the kingdom. They were looking for a Messiah that would restore that grand kingdom of old when led by great kings such as David or Solomon. Even the apostles seemed to struggle with this idea of a physical kingdom: ***"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"*** (Acts 1:6).

Jesus spoke of this kingdom as something that would come sooner rather than later. Even within that generation's lifetime: ***"And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power"*** (Mark 9:1). So when exactly did this kingdom come? Has it already come or are we still looking for it today?

Jesus stated, ***"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"*** (Matthew 16:18-19). In this passage, notice Jesus refers to the *church* also as the *kingdom of heaven*. To the group Jesus was speaking to, this was still a promise of things to come. In fact, some would see it before they died, ***"But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God"*** (Luke 9:27).

After the day of Pentecost (which was after the resurrection of Jesus), we find people being added to the church, ***"Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved"*** (Acts 2:47). In the letters of the apostles, they referred to the church as having been built (in the past): ***"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone"*** (Ephesians 2:20). Those who became Christians were laid on that foundation (I Peter 2:4-10). The church could not be built until the foundation was laid, ***"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ"*** (I Corinthians 3:11). The foundation could not be laid until it was tried (Isaiah 28:16). The critical trial was Jesus' resurrection (I Corinthians 15:14-17). Only then could all things be fulfilled: ***"Be it known unto you all and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"*** (Acts 4:10-12).

The kingdom is not something seen: ***"And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! Or; lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you. And he said unto the disciples, The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man and ye shall not see it"*** (Luke 17:20-21). It is not even in this world: ***"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now is my kingdom not from hence"*** (John 18:36).

The only way to enter this kingdom is by being born of water and of the Spirit; ***"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God"*** (John 3:5). Paul states, ***"Know ye not that so many of us as were***

baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:3-4). Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, but this kingdom will go on forever (Daniel 2:44). Are you in the kingdom?

—Hank Lawrence

Baptism

We rejoice with **Erica Patiño** who obeyed the gospel on the evening of October 15th. Trinidad Wood had the honor of taking her good confession and then baptizing her into Christ. A warm welcome to our new sister in Christ.

Prayer Request

Maria Anaya will have stents put in her right leg tomorrow in El Paso. Please keep Maria in your prayers that everything goes well and that she will have a speedy recovery.

Kim Drake is undergoing test on her liver. Prayers are requested for Kim at this time.

Terri Armentrout (Devida’s niece) is scheduled to have shoulder surgery on Thursday, October 29th. Since this is going to be a very difficult surgery, prayers are being requested for her.

David Ryan was scheduled for an MRI in Lubbock last week. A consultation will be scheduled to find out what is causing his pain. Keep David in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Joyce Drake’s eye surgery went well and she is home recuperating.

Ora McAfee was released from the hospital and was taken to Encompass Health Rehab Center in Midland for physical therapy on her wrist and to build up her strength.

Prayer List

Robert Alcazar; Maria Anaya; Mary Anchondo; Wayne Anderson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Steve Chavez; Jon Cooper; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Leo Holloway; Vertie Howard; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. & Julie Munoz; Barbara Murphy; Rudy Ochoa; Juanita Orosco; Erica Patiño; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Tom Siler; Sheila Stanton; Tim Tolbert; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Bobby Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Carolyn Wilkerson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel, and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Multiple Choice)

How did Jesus respond when the lawyer said a neighbor is “he who showed mercy on him”? (a) “You have spoken” (b) “Follow Me” or (c) “Go and do likewise” (Luke 10:37)

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer ...

Sikkuth and Chiun were gods. (Amos 5:26)

Wedding Shower

We are hosting a “**Wedding Shower**” for Dylan Straw and Shannon Keith for their upcoming marriage on December 19. The table is set up in the east foyer for their gifts. Dylan and Shannon’s selections are at Target, Bed, Bath & Beyond and Amazon. Again, Congratulations Dylan and Shannon!

Events Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

There is no Cooperation with the Enemy

There has always been a difference between the people of God and the people of the world. Throughout the Biblical record, God has expected this difference to be maintained. Throughout history, the world has tried to make us all the same and many Christians have allowed themselves to fall to the enemy. The world is not our friend. In fact, the Bible teaches us that if one would be a friend to the world, this person would be an enemy of God (James 4:4). And the Bible teaches us that only those who do the will of the Lord will live forever. The world and the lusts thereof will pass away (I John 2:17). There is a distinction between the people of God on the Earth, and in eternity; the faithful will be crowned with righteousness and the world will lift up its eyes in torment.

That God’s people do not cooperate with the enemy is shown in the book of Ezra. When the people of God began the rebuilding of the Temple, the people of the world around them heard about it and wanted to take part in the building. Zerubbabel stood faithful to God and told them “*Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God...*” (Ezra 4:3). There was no way that those who opposed God were going to help build his Temple.

So many today have failed to learn the lesson from Ezra. Although they claim to be the faithful of God, they want to do all the things the world wants to do. In fact, there is no distinguishable difference between them and the world. Rather than being an holy nation (I Peter 2:9), they are a part of the world. They have cooperated with the enemy.

The Christian should never cooperate with the enemy. If we do, we will never please God. “*No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier*” (2 Timothy 2:4).
—Charles Coats

October 25, 2020	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Kevin Wilco x	Trinidad Wood
Second Prayer	Larry May	David Ryan
Closing Prayer	Joshua Weakland	Charles Wood
Lords Supper		
<u>Scripture Reading:</u>	Craig Wesson	Don Easlon
		Communion
		(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547—*Deacon:* Jr. Munoz 363-1309 — *Pulpit:* Jr. Munoz 363-1309 — *Table:* Don Easlon 288-5834 — *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990— *Recording Sermons:* Craig Wesson 934-4633 — *Collections:* Craig Wesson 934-4633 (Our services are also live streamed on FB)

Sunday AM

“Christian in Prayer”

(I John 5:14-17)

Sunday PM

“Satan’s Head Games”

(2 Corinthians 10:5)

Our Records

Bible Class... 57

Morning Worship...78

Evening Worship...43

Wednesday...56

Contribution... \$3,231.00