

Message Ten

The Manifestation of the Kingdom of the Heavens-The Prophecy of the Kingdom (1)

Scriptures reading: Matt. 24:1-31.

- I. The manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens on earth involves the reigning and governing of Christ and His overcoming saints on the earth with heavenly authority for one thousand years—Matt. 25:21; 19:28; Rev. 2:26-27; 20:4, 6.**
 - A. Specifically, the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens is the heavenly part of the coming millennial kingdom, which is referred to as the kingdom of the Father in Matt. 13:43.
 - B. The earthly part of the millennial kingdom is the Messianic kingdom, which is referred to as the kingdom of the Son of Man in v. 41, and which is restored tabernacle of David, the kingdom of Israel in Acts 15:16.
 - C. In the heavenly part of the millennial kingdom, which is the kingdom of the heavens manifested in power, the overcoming believers will reign with Christ for a thousand years.
 - D. In the earthly part of the millennial kingdom, the saved remnant of Israel will be the priests and will teach the nations to worship God—Zech. 8:20-23.

- II. Christ's 'coming' will be His presence with His people—Matt. 24:3, 27, 37, 39.**
 - A. This presence (GK. Parousia) will begin with the rapture of the man-child (Rev. 12:5) and the rapture of the firstfruits (Rev. 14:1-4) and will end with His appearing on the earth with the saints
 - B. At the time of the Lord's coming, there will be three kinds of Christians:
 1. The false, nominal Christians, signified by tares, will be gathered and put into the fire.
 2. The overcoming Christians, the genuine believers who lived in the reality of the kingdom of the heavens during the church age.
 3. And, many genuine believers who did not live in the reality of the kingdom in their lifetime, being the defeated Christians.
 - C. At His coming,
 1. The Lord will deal first with the appearance of the kingdom, the tares, the false believers;
 2. Then He will set up His judgement seat to make a differentiation between the overcoming and defeated Christians—2Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:10.
 3. As a result of this judgement, He will transfer the overcomers as the reality of the kingdom into the next age to become the manifestation of the kingdom, while He will send away the defeated ones for a time of discipline during the kingdom age—Matt. 24:45-51; 25:10-12, 30.

- III. The prophecy of the Kingdom concerning Israel—Matt. 24:1-31:**
 - A. Matthew 24:1-14 reveals the history of Israel from Christ's ascension to the consummation of the age:
 1. The Lord revealed that the temple was about to be destroyed—vv. 1-2; cf. Ezek. 10:18; Matt. 22:7.
 2. Many deceivers will come in the name of Christ and claim to be Christ, leading many astray—24:4-5.
 3. There will be wars, rumors of wars, famines, and earthquakes—vv. 6-7; cf. Rev. 6:1-8.
 4. All these things are the beginning of birth pangs— Matt. 24:8:
 5. The Jewish disciples, who were the prophets and wise men sent to the Jews (Matt. 23:34), will be persecuted and hated by all the nations—24:9.
 6. Many will be stumbled, delivering up one another and hating one another—v. 10.
 7. Many false prophets will arise and lead many astray—v. 11.

8. Lawlessness will be multiplied, and the love of the many will grow cold—v. 12.
 9. The ones enduring to the end will be saved—v. 13.
 10. The gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come—v. 14.
- B. Matthew 24:15-31 reveals the things that will happen at the consummation of the age:
1. The great tribulation will transpire in the last three and a half years of this age—
cf. Dan. 9:27; 7:25; 12:7; Rev. 12:14:
 - a. Antichrist's image, the abomination of desolation, will be set up as an idol in the temple of God at the beginning of the great tribulation— Matt. 24:15, 21; Rev. 13:14-15; 2 Thes. 2:4.
 - b. When the abomination of desolation is set up in the holy place, the Jews will need to flee—Matt. 24:16-20.
 - c. No other tribulation will be able to compare with the great tribulation which will take place under the hand of Antichrist—vv. 21-22.
 - d. False Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders so as to lead astray the chosen—vv. 23-26.
 2. The great tribulation will end with the open aspect of Christ's coming:
 - a. Twelve hundred sixty days after Antichrist sets up his image in the temple of God, Christ will come openly to the earth as a flash of lightning—v. 27; cf. Rev. 12:6; 13:5.
 - b. Christ and His overcomers will come as a swift-flying army, like vultures devouring a corpse, to war against Antichrist and his armies and destroy them, thus executing God's judgment on them at Armageddon—Matt. 24:28; Rev. 19:17-21.
 - c. Immediately after the tribulation, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken—Matt. 24:29.
 - d. The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and the tribes of Israel will repent and mourn at the Lord's appearing—v. 30; Zech. 12:10-14; Rev. 1:7.
 - e. After the great tribulation, at His coming back to the earth, the Lord will gather together to the Holy Land the scattered Jews from all parts of the earth—Matt. 24:31; cf. Deut. 30:3-6.

Message Ten

Reference Scripture Verses:

Matt. 24:1-44. **1** And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away, and His disciples came to *Him* to show Him the buildings of the temple. **2** But He answered and said to them, Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, There shall by no means be left here a stone upon a stone, which shall not be thrown down. **3** And as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, Tell us, When will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming and of the consummation of the *age*? **4** And Jesus answered and said to them, See that no one leads you astray. **5** For many will come in My name, saying, I am the Christ, and they will lead many astray. **6** And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for it must happen; but the end is not yet. **7** For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. **8** All these things are the beginning of birth pangs. **9** Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and will kill you, and you will be hated by all the nations because of My name. **10** And at that time many will be stumbled and will deliver up one another and will hate one another. **11** And many false prophets will arise and will lead many astray. **12** And because lawlessness will be multiplied, the love of the many will grow cold. **13** But he who has endured to the end, this one shall be saved. **14** And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

15 Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let him who reads understand), **16** Then let those in Judea flee to the mountains; **17** Let him who is on the housetop not come down to take the things out of his house; **18** And let him who is in the field not turn back to take his garment. **19** But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing *babies* in those days. **20** And pray that your flight may not be in winter, nor on a Sabbath, **21** For at that time there will be great tribulation, such as has not occurred from the beginning of the world until now, nor shall by any means ever occur. **22** And unless those days had been cut short, no flesh would be saved; but on account of the chosen, those days will be cut short. **23** At that time if anyone says to you, Behold, here is the Christ! or, Here! do not believe *it*. **24** For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders so as to lead astray, if possible, even the chosen. **25** Behold, I have told you beforehand. **26** Therefore if they say to you, Behold, He is in the wilderness, do not go forth; Behold, *He is* in the inner rooms, do not believe *it*.

27 For just as the lightning comes forth from the east and shines to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. **28** Wherever the corpse is, there will the vultures be gathered together. **29** And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. **30** And at that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His chosen together from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the *other* end.

I.

Matt. 25:21 His master said to him, Well *done*, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.

Matt. 19:28 And Jesus said to them, Truly I say to you that you who have followed Me, in the restoration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you also shall sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Rev. 2:26-27. **26** And he who overcomes and he who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; **27** And he will shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces, as I also have received from My Father;

Rev. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and *of those* who had not worshipped the beast nor his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Rev. 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Matt. 13:41 The Son of Man will send His angels, and they will collect out of His kingdom all the stumbling blocks and those who practice lawlessness,

Matt. 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Acts 15:16 "After these things I will return, and I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen; and I will rebuild its ruins and erect it again,

Zech. 8:20-23. 20 Thus says Jehovah of hosts, Peoples will again come, even the inhabitants of many cities; **21** And the inhabitants of one will go to another, saying, Let us go at once to entreat the favor of Jehovah and to seek Jehovah of hosts; and the other: I will go too. **22** Indeed, many peoples and strong nations will come to seek Jehovah of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of Jehovah. **23** Thus says Jehovah of hosts, In those days, from all the languages of the nations, ten men will take hold, indeed, they will take hold of the skirt of a Jewish man, saying, Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.

II.

Matt. 24:37 For just as the days of Noah were, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Matt. 24:39 And they did not know *that judgment was coming* until the flood came and took all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Rev. 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

Rev. 14:1-4. 1 And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads. **2** And I heard a voice out of heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; and the voice which I heard was like *the sound* of harp-singers playing on their harps. **3** And they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the hundred and forty-four thousand, who have been purchased from the earth. **4** These are they who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are they who follow the Lamb wherever He may go. These were purchased from among men *as* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

2Cor. 5:10 For we must all be manifested before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* through the body according to what he has practiced, whether good or bad.

Rom. 14:10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God,

Matt. 25:45-51. 45 Who then is the faithful and prudent slave, whom the master has set over his household to give them food at the proper time? **46** Blessed is that slave whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. **47** Truly I say to you that he will set him over all his possessions. **48** But if that evil slave says in his heart, My master delays, **49** And begins to beat his fellow slaves and eats and drinks with the drunken, **50** The master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect *him* and at an hour which he does not know, **51** And will cut him asunder and appoint his portion with the hypocrites. In that place there will be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth.

Matt. 25:10-12. 10 And as they were going away to buy, the bridegroom came; and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast. And the door was shut. **11** And later the rest of the virgins came also, saying, Lord, lord, open to us! **12** But he answered and said, Truly I say to you, I do not know you.

Matt. 25:30 And cast out the useless slave into the outer darkness. In that place there will be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth.

III.

Ezek. 10:18 And the glory of Jehovah went forth from over the threshold of the house and stood over the cherubim.

Matt. 22:7 And the king became angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

Rev. 6:1-8. 1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying like the sound of thunder, Come. **2** And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and he who sits on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went forth conquering and to conquer. **3** And when He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, Come. **4** And I saw, and behold, another horse, a red one, went forth; and to him who sits on it, to him *authority* was given to take peace from the earth, and that *men* should slay one another; and to him a great sword was given. **5** And when He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, Come. And I saw, and behold, a black horse; and he who sits on it had a balance in his hand. **6** And I heard as it were a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying: A choenix of wheat for a denarius and three choenixes of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine. **7** And when He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature

saying, Come. **8** And I saw, and behold, a pale horse, and he who sits upon it, his name is Death; and Hades followed with him. And authority was given to them over the fourth part of the earth to kill with the sword and with famine and with death and by the beasts of the earth.

Dan. 9:27 And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week; and in the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and will replace the sacrifice and the oblation with abominations of the desolator, even until the complete destruction that has been determined is poured out upon the desolator.

Dan. 7:25 And he will speak things against the Most High and wear out the saints of the Most High; and his intention will be to change the times and the law; and they will be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

Dan. 12:7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the water of the river, as He lifted up His right hand and His left hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever that there would be a time and times and half a time; and when the shattering of the power of the holy people is completed, all these things will be completed.

Rev. 12:14 And to the woman there were given the two wings of the great eagle that she might fly into the wilderness into her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time from the face of the serpent.

Rev. 13:14-15. **14** And he deceives those who dwell on the earth on account of the signs which he was given *power* to do before the beast, commanding those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast, who had the stroke of the sword and revived. **15** And *power* was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast that the image of the beast might even speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

2Thes. 2:4 Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or an object of worship, so that he sits in the temple of God, setting himself forth, *saying* that he is God.

Rev. 12L:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place there prepared by God so that they might nourish her there a thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev. 13:5 And there was given to him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and authority was given to him to act for forty-two months.

Rev. 19:17-21. **17** And I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in mid-heaven, Come here; gather yourselves to the great dinner of God, **18** That you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of generals and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free and slave and small and great. **19** And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war with Him who sits on the horse and with His army. **20** And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet, who in his presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped his image. These two were cast alive into the ⁴lake of fire, which burns with brimstone. **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeds out of the mouth of Him who sits on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Zech. 12:10-14. **10** And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of supplications; and they will look upon Me, whom they have pierced; and they will wail over Him with wailing as for an only son and cry bitterly over Him with bitter crying as for a firstborn son. **11** In that day there will be great wailing in Jerusalem, like the wailing of Hadad-rimmon in the valley of Megiddon. **12** And the land will wail, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; **13** The family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; **14** All the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

Rev. 1:7 Behold, He comes with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the land will mourn over Him. Yes, amen.

Deut. 30:3-6. **3** Then Jehovah your God will turn your captivity and be compassionate to you, and He will turn and gather you from all the peoples among whom Jehovah your God has scattered you. **4** If any of you have been driven out to the ends of heaven, from there will Jehovah your God gather you and from there will He take you. **5** And Jehovah your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you will possess it; and He will do good for you and will multiply you more than He did your fathers. **6** And Jehovah your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, so that you will love Jehovah your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.