

The God of Heaven Shall Set up a Kingdom

Dan. 2:44

Introduction:

- A. Daniel to Babylon in 606 B.C.
 - 1. With Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego became servants in the king's court.
 - 2. Nebuchadnezzar's dream. (vv. 31-35).
 - 3. Foretold the kingdom of God.
- B. Let's study some aspects of that kingdom.

Discussion:

I. The *Time* of the Kingdom of God.

- A. To be set up during Roman Empire.
 - 1. Daniel. (vv. 37-44)
 - a. **Head of Gold** was Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom. (v. 38 - 606-536).
 - b. **Chest and Arms of Silver** was Medo-Persian Kingdom. (536-332)
 - c. **Belly and Thighs of Bronze** was kingdom of Alexander the Great. (331-146)
 - d. **Legs of iron and feet of iron and clay** was Roman Empire. (146-A.D. 400)
 - 2. John the Baptist. (Matt. 3:1-2)
 - 3. Jesus (Matt. 4:17; Mark 9:1; John 18:37)
 - 4. Paul and John (Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9)
- B. To be delivered up at second coming. (1 Cor. 15:23-28).

II. The *Nature* of the kingdom of God.

- A. Stronger and longer other kingdoms. (vv. 34, 35, 44).
 - 1. Kingdoms of text are long gone — kingdom still here.
 - 2. Kingdom of God never destroyed — seed (word) never destroyed.
- B. Different from other kingdoms. (John 18:36).
 - 1. Operates in a different realm — not political. (Cf. Matt. 22:21)
 - 2. Expanded and defended with different means — not “by the sword.”
 - 3. Spiritual rather than physical (Luke 17:20-21)

III. The *Identity* of the Kingdom of God.

- A. “Kingdom” and “church” interchangeable (Matt. 16:18, 19).
- B. Jesus raised to throne — raised to be head of church. (Acts 2:30-36; Eph 1:20-22).
- C. Saved ones added to church — Translated into kingdom (Acts 2:38, 41, 47; Col. 1:12-14)
- D. Jesus has power and dominion beyond the church. (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:20, 21; cf. Dan 4:25).

IV. The *Importance* of the kingdom of God.

- A. It must be put first. (Matt. 6:33).
- B. It's citizens greater than John the Baptist. (Matt. 11:9-11).
- C. It is like a treasure. (Matt. 13:44).
- D. It is place of Lord's Table or Lord's supper. (Matt. 26:29; Luke 22:29,30).

Conclusion:

- A. Where are you? Under power of darkness or in kingdom?
- B. Are you looking for the kingdom to come? It already here.