

ISRAEL & THE COMING KINGDOM ACTS 1:6-11 & 1:1-3

What do we learn from this text?

I. The kingdom will be restored to Israel!

Acts 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, **Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?** **Acts 1:7** And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, **Acts 1:2** Until the day in which he was taken up, **after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:**

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive **after his passion (μετὰ τὸ παθεῖν)** by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and **speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:**

So, how do we know this?

1. This is what the Old Testament says! (Over, & over, & over, & over...!)

Isaiah 2:1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. **Isaiah 2:2** And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. **Isaiah 2:3** And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. **Isaiah 2:4** And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. **See: Micah 4:1-4**

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. **Isaiah 9:7** Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. **See: Isaiah 11:1-11**

Amos 9:11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old: **Amos 9:12** That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this. **Amos 9:13** Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. **Amos 9:14** And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit *them*; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. **Amos 9:15** And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

Malachi 1:11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name *shall be* great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense *shall be* offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name *shall be* great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

2. This is what Jesus taught!

Matthew 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, **in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.**

Matthew 19:29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. **Matthew 19:30** But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.

Luke 22:28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. **Luke 22:29** And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; **Luke 22:30** That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

3. This is what the apostles / disciples understood!

This is where the attack is! This is the Apostles misunderstanding. This is a Jewish misunderstanding.

No! This was the Apostles understanding:

- **Given by / through the Holy Spirit**
- **Given from Jesus Himself**
- **Given over a 40-day timespan**

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4. This was not corrected / contradicted by Jesus!

5. This is how the Bible concludes.

Revelation 21:12 And had a wall great and high, *and had twelve gates*, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are *the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel*: **Revelation 21:13** On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

See also:

II. The Kingdom had not yet been restored to Israel!

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Matthew 3:2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 13:11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know **the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**, but to them it is not given. **Matthew 13:12** For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. **Matthew 13:13** Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

Matthew 13:16 **But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.** **Matthew 13:17** For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see *those things* which ye see, and have not seen *them*; and to hear *those things* which ye hear, and have not heard *them*.

God has always been sovereign.

Salvation was always present.

Heaven had always been our home.

The Kingdom was not &/ is not yet restored.

Introducing the Mystery Form of the Kingdom.

III. The Time / Timing of the restoration was the **only** question!

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Psalm 89:33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. **Psalm 89:34** My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. **Psalm 89:35** Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. **Psalm 89:36** **His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before me.** **Psalm 89:37** **It shall be established forever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.**

Psalm 89:38 **But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.**

Psalm 89:39 **Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.** **Psalm 89:40** Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin. **Psalm 89:41** All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours. **Psalm 89:42** Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice. **Psalm 89:43** Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle. **Psalm 89:44** Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground. **Psalm 89:45** The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah.

Psalm 89:46 **How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself forever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?** **Psalm 89:47** Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain? **Psalm 89:48** What man *is he that* liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah. **Psalm 89:49** Lord, where *are* thy former lovingkindnesses, *which* thou swarest unto David in thy truth? **Psalm 89:50** Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; *how* I do bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the mighty people; **Psalm 89:51** Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed. **Psalm 89:52** Blessed *be* the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

IV. The timing wasn't and isn't our business!

Acts 1:7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know **the times or the seasons**, which the Father hath put in his own power.

V. We do have a business to occupy our time!

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in **Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**