

Acts Series

Lesson #10

December 7, 2010

Dean Bible Ministries

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The Acts of the Apostles

“To the end of the earth”

Acts 1:8



**Acts 1:1, “The first account I composed,
Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and
teach,**

**Acts 1:2, “until the day when He was taken up to
heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given
orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.”**

Acts 1:3, “To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.”

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βασιλεία, *basileia*

a term relating to royal administration

① the act of ruling

② territory ruled by a king, kingdom

The Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of God

Usage

Used 33× in Luke; only “kingdom” 12×

7× in Acts; only “kingdom” 1×

70× in New Testament

“Kingdom” used 158× in New Testament;

127× in the Gospels (31, gospel; 19 epistles;
5 Rev.)

In Matthew “kingdom” is used 55× (kingdom of
heaven, 32×; kingdom of God, 5×)

The Kingdom of God

Luke 1:33, “And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

The Kingdom of God

Luke 1:31, “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

Luke 1:32, “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

Luke 1:33, “And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

The Kingdom of God

- a. His name would be Yeshua, from the same Hebrew root as Joshua, meaning “to save.”
- b. He would be great.
- c. He would be called the Son of the Most High. The Septuagint often used the term “Most High” (ὕψιστου *hupistou*) to translate the Hebrew עֲלִיּוֹן *eliyon* (cf., v. 76).
- d. He will be given the throne of His father David. (2 Sam. 7:16; Ps. 89:3–4, 28–29).
- e. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever.

The Kingdom of God

Gen. 49:10, “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people.”

The Kingdom of God

f. His kingdom will never end. (2 Sam. 7:13–16).

The Kingdom of God

- 3. The second use comes from the mouth of Jesus early in his ministry.**

Luke 4:43, “but He said to them, ‘I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent.’ ”

The Kingdom of God

4. So what is the Kingdom of God?

False concepts:

A synonym for the eternal state, no physical or material aspect.

A purely earthly, socio-economic utopia brought in through human means.

A nationalistic movement on the part of Israel.

The visible, organized Church, including both believers (wheat) and unbelievers (tares).

A spiritual kingdom where Christ rules in the hearts of men.

The Kingdom of God

4. So what is the Kingdom of God?

Inherent concepts in “kingdom,” βασιλεία, *basileia*

The right to rule:

The authority, sovereignty or dominion of the ruler over a domain

Luke 19:11–17 – the Parable of the nobleman who goes to a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.

The idea is that someone is invested with the authority to rule.

The Kingdom of God

4. So what is the Kingdom of God?

Inherent concepts in “kingdom,” βασιλεία, *basileia*

The domain or realm ruled:

The realm is composed of people; Matt. 21:43; Mark 1:15

The realm is a restoration or re-establishment of a previously existing kingdom of Israel, Acts 1:6

The Kingdom of God

4. So what is the Kingdom of God?

Inherent concepts in “kingdom,” βασιλεία, *basileia*

A realm ruled in reality:

The authority is not merely possessed but is exercised in reality.

The Kingdom of God

4. So what is the Kingdom of God?

Two expressions of the Kingdom or Rule of God

- a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.**
- b. The theocratic manifestation of that rule in the history and future of Israel.**

- a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.**

Timeless

Psa. 10:16, “The LORD is King forever and ever; the nations have perished out of His land.”

Psa. 74:12, “For God is my King from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.”

Jer. 10:10, “But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, and the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.”

a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.

Timeless

Psa. 145:13, “Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Lam. 5:19, “You, O LORD, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation.”

a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.

Universal

1 Chr. 29:11, “Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head over all.

1 Chr. 29:12, “Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.”

a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.

Universal

Psa. 103:19, “The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.”

Psa. 139:7, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?”

Psa. 139:8, “If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.

Psa. 139:9, “If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Psa. 139:10, “Even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.”

- a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.**

Universal

Dan. 4:17, “This decision is by the decree of the watchers, and the sentence by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.”

Dan. 4:25, “They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.”

a. The eternal, timeless, authority of God over His creation.

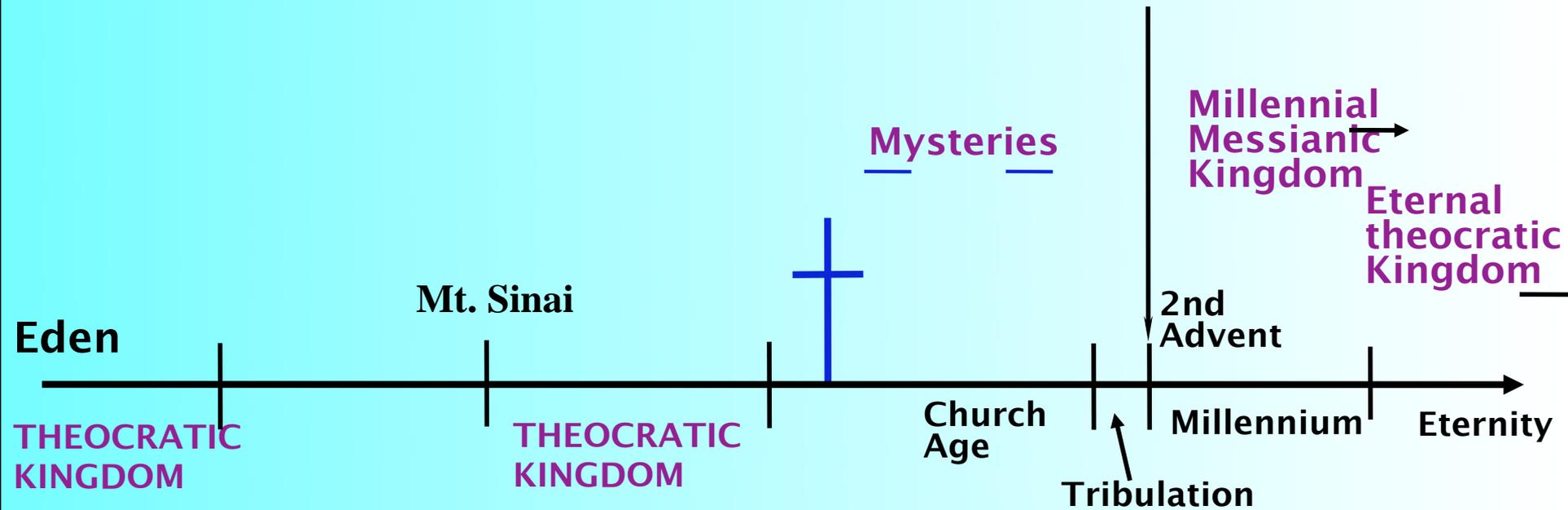
Universal

Dan. 4:32, “And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.”

Amos 9:2, “Though they dig into hell, from there My hand shall take them; though they climb up to heaven, from there I will bring them down;”

KINGDOM OF GOD IN THE BIBLE

The Universal/Sovereign Kingdom



5. The expression in a theocratic form:

The Mosaic Law: God ruled the people

The rejection of God as king: 1 Sam. 8

The provision of a dynastic ruler: 2 Sam 7

6. The prediction of an eternal ruler

The provision of a dynastic ruler: 2 Sam. 7

2 Sam. 7:16, “And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.”

7. The prediction of a divine Messiah, Anointed One.

Psa. 2:2, “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,”

8. Often he is simply referred to in terms of the Davidic covenant.

Isa. 9:6, “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa. 9:7, “Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”

8. Often he is simply referred to in terms of the Davidic covenant.

Isa. 11:1, “There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

Isa. 11:10, “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.”

9. The title “Son of Man”

Dan. 7:1, “I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.”

Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ ”

Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

10. The Message of John the Baptist

Luke 3:8, “Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Luke 3:9, “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” [cf., Micah 4:7ff]

10. The Message of John the Baptist

Matt. 3:1, “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

Matt. 3:2, “and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!’ ”

Matt. 12:8, “For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

Matt. 12:32, “Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.”

Matt. 12:40, “For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Matt. 13:37, “He answered and said to them: ‘He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.’ ”