

Eschatology Lesson 3

Evidence for the Kingdom

1. Acts 1: 1-11;

Vs. 6: The Apostles were looking for Jesus to establish a kingdom on earth based in Israel.

Vs. 7: -Jesus does not correct them doctrinally on the future.

-He tells them that they are not to know the times the Father has fixed. This indicates that what they were asking will happen but it is not for them to know when.

Vs. 8: -Jesus turns their focus to the “church age”

- They will receive the Holy Spirit
- They will be witnesses all over the earth.

Vs. 11: -Jesus is going to come back

-He is going to come back in the same way.

- In the clouds
- with a physical body.

2. Zechariah 14 Jewish prophet speaking to the nation of Israel.

Vs. 1-2: -This is speaking of an event that has not taken place yet.

- All nations will come against them.
- “half of the city exiled”- This attack will be very severe but it will not be a total destruction like in A.D 70 and other attacks on Israel..

Vs. 3: -This verse begins to talk about deliverance.

- In 70 AD the Romans brought a multinational attack upon Israel but still to this day has there been any deliverance. Jesus has definitely not literally fought against the nations.

Vs. 4: -Gives a description of Jesus physically coming and standing on Mount olives .

- Mount of Olives and surrounding area will be geographically changed unlike anything we have seen to this day.

Vs. 9: - King of all the Earth

- No other king, no other name

Vs. 10: - Goes on to talk about the land in detail.

- The mountains will be flattened.

Vs. 11: - Jerusalem for the first time in thousands of years will be a safe place to live.

Daniel Ch. 2 Nebachadnezzar’s Dream

Vs. 36: -Nebachadnezzar/ Babylonian Empire is the head of Gold

- The first world governing empire

- "Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was likened unto gold because it was an *absolute* monarchy, God's ideal government. Nebuchadnezzar was not, however, God's ideal monarch!" (Talbot)

Vs. 39: -Medo-Person Empire is the arms and chest of silver

- An empire inferior to Babylon
- Grecian Empire (Alexander) is the bronze stomach
 - An empire inferior to the Grecian empire
 - Biggest government among those compared in the image. (except for the final government of Jesus)

Vs. 40: -Roman Empire are the legs of Iron.

Vs. 41: -Feet and Toes are partly of clay and partly of iron.

- Divided Kingdom
- Some strength
- Tolerance unification world group.

Vs. 44: -God will set up a Kingdom that will endure forever.

- Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome were all real kingdoms on earth...God's kingdom will be too.
- Nebuchadnezzar had just been shown the future of human history from Babylon to the coming kingdom of the Messiah.

Matthew 12 Jesus heals a demon possessed man! (vs. 22)

Vs. 23: - Could this be? They were familiar with O.T promises and react with Messianic expectation.

Vs. 24: - Religious leaders respond by rejecting Jesus attributing his power to the prince of demons.

- RELIGIOUS POWER: The Religious leaders would have been threatened by the people wanting to follow Jesus. They were trying to avoid losing their power. If Jesus was who he said he was and was going to establish His kingdom(which he one day will do) the religious power was in jeopardy. If the people think this is true they will begin to follow Jesus.
- POLITICAL POWER: The religious leaders were trying to prevent the people taking a risk of following the "Jesus Party". If the people think that this is true and they follow Jesus and revolt against Rome and he is not the Messiah then the whole city would have been destroyed by the power of the Romans. They are trying to avoid following someone who is not the messiah.

*Coming Kingdom of Jesus is known as the "Millennium" (1000 year reign) Rev. 20