

Covenant & Kingdom
Week 20 - The Kingdom of God
Revelation 11:15-19

- Covenants are the charter of authority for all kingdoms and dominions
 - The ratification of the NC constitutes the beginning of the Kingdom of Christ (Mt. 28:18)
 - The ascension is the coronation of Christ as covenant King - Acts 1:9, Eph. 1:19-23, Ph. 2:9-11, Col. 1:13-20
 - The completed nature of the NC assures that the kingdom is everlasting
 - The NC is for all the nations, and so the dominion of the kingdom is all creation
 - Since the resurrection, Christ's authority as King is being progressively proclaimed, acknowledged, and applied
- Kingdom of God is foreshadowed and foretold throughout the Old Covenant
 - Ps. 2:6-12 - God's Son is to be established as ruler over all rebellious nations
 - Ps. 110:1-2, 5-6 - Every enemy will be conquered, no threat of uprising or overthrow
 - Is. 11:1-10 - A royal heir will reign in perfect righteousness, conquer the wicked, and establish peace - this will be global
 - Is. 49:1-7 - The Son is a second Israel who will make all creation a kingdom obedient to God as the covenant keeper
 - Dan. 7:13-14 - Dominion given to a covenant keeping "Son of Man", from the "Ancient of Days" in the "clouds of heaven", which includes all the earth, and which no enemy can conquer
 - Rev. 1:5, 11:15, 19:15-16 - Jesus' covenant work inaugurated this promised kingdom
 - No longer a shadowy promised reality, but is a binding actuality in creation
- Who are the citizens of the Kingdom of God?
 - NC members, the elect - we exist and operate in reality as it truly is, according to God's covenant order
 - The kingdom is most obviously, but not exclusively, manifested in the church
 - The church is not the entirety of God's plan
 - The kingdom is the objective reality of all creation, and all creation is called to conform to it
 - This is the work of Christians in the world, in every sphere of life
 - Christians live in an already/not yet tension
 - The kingdom is real, but has not yet been fully consummated
 - We are confident in the authority of Christ, His victory, and the direction of history
 - The finished New Covenant is the assurance both of our own salvation and the certainty of God's kingdom plans for all creation