

22T09M Kingdom of God-NT&OT

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me @ the PUNLA coffee table We have been talking about the most prominent topic in the New Testament, the kingdom of God. Actually, Jesus starts much of His teaching with the phrase, “the Kingdom of God is like or the kingdom is”

But what, where, when is the Kingdom of God. Now that is the right question. We have been looking at what the Bible has say about these questions. We have surveyed the Gospels and the what the Apostle Paul has said about this topic. Today, I want to briefly look at other bible references to the kingdom of God in both the new and old testaments.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father. Thank you for your good news. Lord use me to share your message. If I say something in error, please let them remember what you wanted them to hear, not my errand words. Help us not to be confused by the many voices and opinions we hear. May we stay focused on your word Lord. Guide our discussion. We pay in your name Lord Jesus, Amen.

There are many references and inferences to the kingdom of God throughout the Bible. But only a few specifically address the kingdom of God in a way that helps us to understand the what, where and when of the kingdom of God. Here is a list of the 4 verses I want to address today. Two from the old testament and two additional new testament verses.

- Daniel 5:21
- Daniel 6:26
- James 2:5
- Revelation 1:9

In Daniel 5, Babylonian king Belshazzar has called in Daniel to interpret a message from God. Daniel 5:18-21 (NIV) *18“Your Majesty, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor. 19Because of the high position he gave him, all the nations and peoples of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death; those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled. 20But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. 21He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like the ox; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes.* Daniel is giving Belshazzar a little history lesson. God is sovereign over all kingdoms. The kingdom of God is over all other kingdoms. All other kingdoms are subject to the will of God. In this story, Daniel goes on to predict the fall of the Babylonian empire to the Medes and Persians. Belshazzar laughs it off and goes back to his party. That very night the Medes and Persians conquer Babylon and kill Belshazzar.

Later in the book Daniel is the story of Daniel and the lion’s den. Most kids know this amazing story. After God saves Daniel from the lions, King Darius issues a decree in Daniel 6:26-28 (NIV) *26“I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. 27For he is the living*

God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. ²⁷He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.” ²⁸So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian. What a powerful statement, God’s kingdom will never be destroyed and God’s dominion will never end. The kingdom of God is always and forever, it is everywhere and everything.

In the new testament we have already discussed the gospels, acts and the letters of Paul. In the letter of James, I believe was written by the half-brother of Jesus. James reminds us how God views our actions and behaviors. James 1:1-7 (NIV) *¹My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?*

Last, I want to look at a couple scriptures from the last book in the Bible, Revelation. Let’s start with John’s introduction. Revelation 1:9-11 (NLT) *⁹I, John, am your brother and your partner in suffering and in God’s Kingdom and in the patient endurance to which Jesus calls us. I was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the word of God and for my testimony about Jesus. ¹⁰It was the Lord’s Day, and I was worshiping in the Spirit. Suddenly, I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet blast. ¹¹It said, “Write in a book everything you see, and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.”*

Hear that again, *⁹I, John, am your brother and your partner in suffering and in God’s Kingdom and in the patient endurance to which Jesus calls us.* Your partner in suffering and in God’s kingdom. In God’s kingdom. Despite what John was experiencing, he says he is in the kingdom of God. Not waiting for it to come, rather he is fully in the kingdom of God at that moment.

Let us pray. Heavenly Father. Thank you for you. You only are worthy of praise. You alone are king of kings. Help us to recognize you as the king of our lives. Help us to live like we know it. As your followers, we are active parts of your kingdom. The kingdom of God. I pray that we act like it. Every day in every moment. Thank you, Jesus, for what you did for me or all of us. We pray in your name Lord Jesus, Amen.

Let me leave you with this. The kingdom of God. What, where and when? Daniel wrote that God is sovereign over all kingdoms and peoples of the earth. That means God’s kingdom is over and rules over all kingdoms of the earth. God is king. God can do whatever, whenever God chooses to do. King Darius recognized this when God save Daniel in the lion’s den. God rules over all kingdoms of the earth forever. That is the kingdom of God is always and forever. God’s kingdom has always been and will always be. James writes that what we do right here and right now matters in the kingdom of God. Because we are in the kingdom of God. We may not be citizens of the kingdom of God but we are in the kingdom of God. We are subject to the kingdom of God. God is God. God is in charge. God is ruling over all of His creation, now. And then John says in his introduction to the Revelation of Jesus Christ. John is sharing in suffering but he says he is also in the kingdom of God. So despite he present situation and suffering at the hands of

an earthly rule of a little kingdom. John still knows he is a citizen of the kingdom of God. He is in God's kingdom. The kingdom of God what is where God is king, that's everywhere, every time, all times. The kingdom of God where is where God is king, that's everywhere, every time, all times. The kingdom of God When is where God is king, that's everywhere, every time, all times. That's the good news or gospel that Jesus preached. "Repent and believe the good news of the kingdom of God".

Thank you for joining me @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. I hope you will join me as we study and learn about the Kingdom of God in this series. If you liked the message, please click like. And please share the link with a friend. Send me comments to my email on the screen

Until next time @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.