

Acts Series

Lesson #27

May 17, 2011

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

The Two Aspects of the Kingdom of God

Universal Rule of God

The Kingdom of God has *always* existed.

The Kingdom of God is *universal*.

The Kingdom of God is God's *direct* rule on the earth.

The Kingdom of God is God's *unconditional* rule over all His creation.

Theocratic Rule of God

The Kingdom of God is a historical kingdom among mankind.

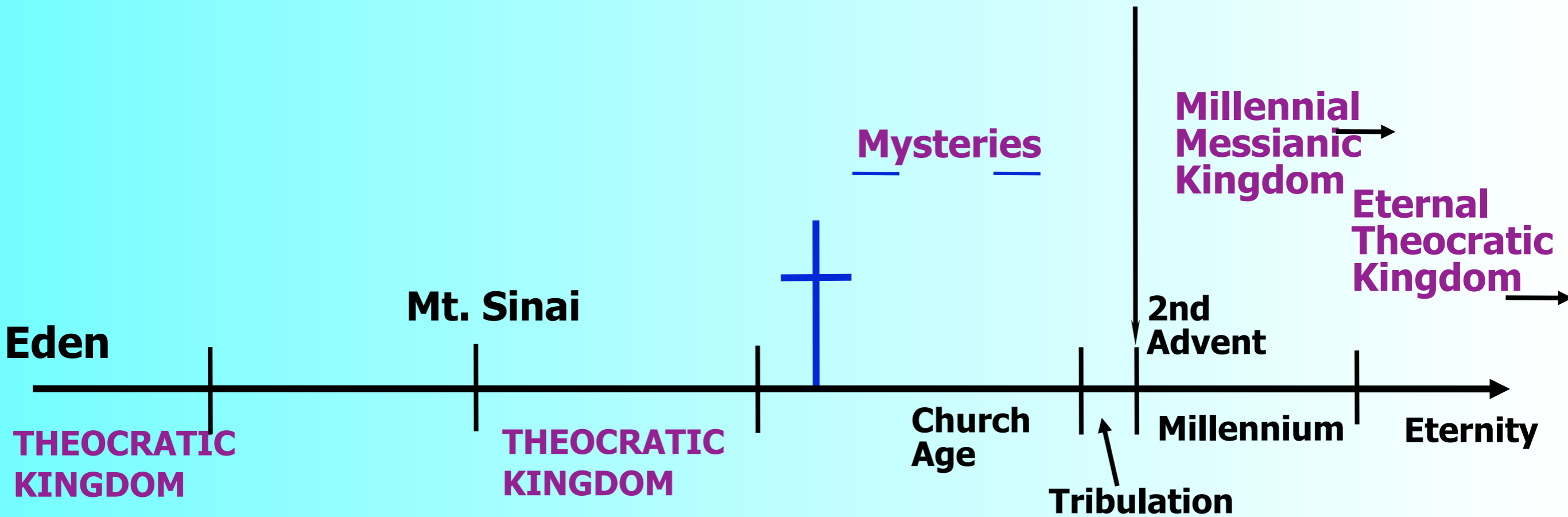
The Kingdom of God is *located on the earth*.

The Kingdom of God is mediated through an agent on the earth.

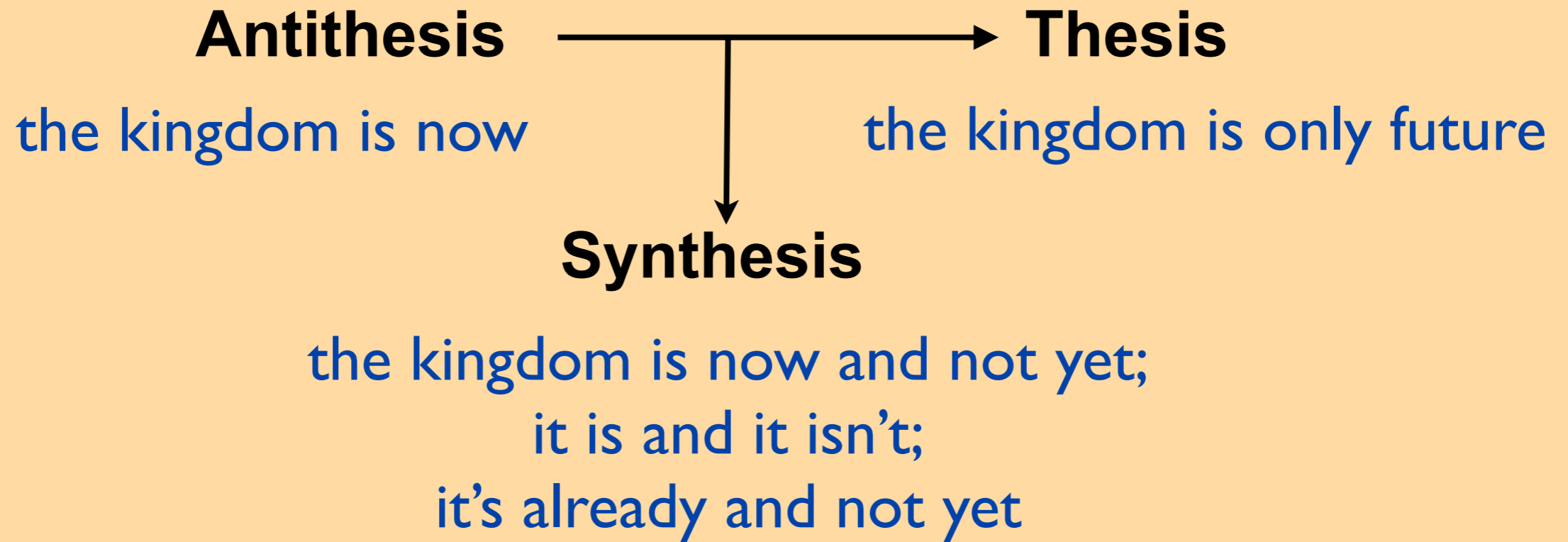
The Kingdom of God operates within a covenant structure between God and mankind.

KINGDOM OF GOD IN THE BIBLE

← The Universal/Sovereign Kingdom →



Dialectics



The Kingdom Prophecies in the Old Testament

1. How are we to interpret prophecy?

A. Literal:

The normal, plain meaning of language including the use of figures of speech, metaphor, simile, symbols, and allegory. But these are determined through a normal use of language.

1. How are we to interpret prophecy?

A. Literal:

When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word, at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in the light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise.

Psa. 72:6, “He shall come down like rain upon the grass before mowing, like showers that water the earth.

Psa. 72:7, “In His days the righteous shall flourish, and abundance of peace, until the moon is no more.”

Non-literal:

God promised Abraham the land, but this is now not a physical land but in actuality means heaven.



?

=



The combination method: this view sees two fulfillments, a near and a far fulfillment. But this violates the single meaning of Scripture.

2. The Kingdom is prophesied as a literal Kingdom.

A literal King

Isa. 33:17, “Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; they will see the land that is very far off.”



The Kingdom is Prophesied as a Literal Kingdom

Literal land, literal geographical location

Isa. 14:1, “For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will still choose Israel, and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob.

Isa. 14:2, “Then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the LORD; they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors.”

The Kingdom is Prophesied as a Literal Kingdom

Literal Jewish citizenry

Jer. 23:3, “ ‘But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

Jer. 23:4, “ ‘I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,’ says the LORD.

Jer. 23:5, “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

Jer. 23:6, “ ‘In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.’ ”

The Kingdom is Prophesied as a Literal Kingdom

Literal temple in literal Jerusalem

Isa. 2:3, “Many people shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”

The Kingdom is Prophesied as a Literal Kingdom

Literal nations involved

Isa. 11:11, “It shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people who are left, from Assyria and Egypt, from Pathros and Cush, from Elam and Shinar, from Hamath and the islands of the sea.”

4. The Future Establishment of the Kingdom: Near

Hag. 2:6, “For thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;

Hag. 2:7, “ ‘and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,’ says the LORD of hosts.

Hag. 2:8, “ ‘The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,’ says the LORD of hosts.

Hag. 2:9, “ ‘The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the LORD of hosts. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the LORD of hosts.”

4. The Future Establishment of the Kingdom: Near

Isa. 29:17, “Is it not yet a very little while till Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be esteemed as a forest?”

4. The Future Establishment of the Kingdom: Far Off

Hos. 3:4, “For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim.

Hos. 3:5, “Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.”

4. The Future Establishment of the Kingdom: Far Off

Isa. 2:2, “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.”

5. The Kingdom will be established after a period of devastating judgments

Joel 3:9–16

Isa. 3:25–4:1

6. The unique Ruler of the future Kingdom

Isa. 32:1, “Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice.

Isa. 32:2, “A man will be as a hiding place from the wind, and a cover from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.”

6. The unique Ruler of the future Kingdom

Dan. 7:13 , “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.

Dan. 7:14, “Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.”

7. The Government of the Kingdom will be a benevolent Monarchy

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.”

7. The Government of the Kingdom will be a benevolent Monarchy

Psa. 2:6, “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”

7. The Government of the Kingdom will be a benevolent Monarchy

Dan. 7:14, “Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.”

7. The Government of the Kingdom will be a benevolent Monarchy

Isa. 40:10, “Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him.

Isa. 40:11, “He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young.”

8. The Extent of the Kingdom

Zech. 14:9, “And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—‘The LORD is one,’ and His name one.”

8. The Extent of the Kingdom

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.”

9. The Kingdom is spiritual only in the sense that it is related to a spiritual rebirth and spiritual cleansing and the Holy Spirit

Ezek. 36:24, “For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

Ezek. 36:25, “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Ezek. 36:26, “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezek. 36:27, “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Ezek. 36:28, “Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.”

9. The Kingdom is spiritual only in the sense that it is related to a spiritual rebirth and spiritual cleansing and the Holy Spirit

Jer. 31:33, “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

9. The Kingdom is spiritual only in the sense that it is related to a spiritual rebirth and spiritual cleansing and the Holy Spirit

Joel 2:28, “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.”

10. The economics of the Kingdom and the Holy Spirit

Isa. 65:21, “They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

Isa. 65:22, “They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.”

11. The Kingdom will be a time of healing, long life

Isa. 35:5, “Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Isa. 35:6, “Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.”

11. The Kingdom will be a time of healing, long life

Isa. 33:24, “And the inhabitant will not say, ‘I am sick’; the people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity.”

Isa. 65:23, “They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth children for trouble; for they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.”