

The purpose of the Covenants of God is to produce ultimately the Theocratic Kingdom. We have looked at the previous covenants and now come to the New Covenant, which was given by God to Jeremiah when the people would not obey the voice of the LORD and keep His covenant to be a peculiar treasure unto Him and be unto Him a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation, Ex 19:5,6. So the purpose of the Sinaitic Covenant was the produce an holy nation. The purpose of the New Covenant is the same, to produce an holy nation. We find this Covenant in Jer 31:31-37:

³¹ Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: ³² Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: ³³ But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. ³⁵ Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: ³⁶ If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. ³⁷ Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD. The Old Covenant required covenant faithfulness of the people, “if you will obey, then.” But notice here, over and over, the LORD said, “I will.

We have seen that there are three elements that make up a kingdom – a king, a land, and a people. The King has been identified; he is the son of David and David’s Lord, the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

What is the land over which He shall rule? Abraham and his natural descendants were given the land of Canaan, Gen 13:14-17 - ¹⁴ And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: ¹⁵ For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. ¹⁶ And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. ¹⁷ Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee. Again, Gen 15:18-21, ¹⁸ In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: ¹⁹ The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, ²⁰ And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, ²¹ And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

This is the promised land, but when will he and his descendents possess it? The martyr Stephen told the Jews in Acts 7:5 that ⁵ Jehovah gave him (Abraham) none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child. If he were not to receive it in his lifetime, when would he receive it? Paul in Heb 11 tells us: ⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. ⁹ By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: ¹⁰ For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God... ¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth... ¹⁶ But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. ¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸ Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: ¹⁹ Accounting that God was able to raise him

up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. These promises will come to him, as we see from Hebrews 11, in the resurrection, when the King shall come to assume his kingdom.

But the land of Canaan is not the extent of Christ's kingdom! This land is for the natural sons of Abraham. But Abraham has many adopted children, Gentiles who have the faith of father Abraham. Paul brought forth this truth in Rom 4:8-25, ⁸ *Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.* ⁹ *Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.* ¹⁰ *How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.* ¹¹ *And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:* ¹² *And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.* ¹³ *For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.* ¹⁶ *Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,* ¹⁷ *(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.* ²² *And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.* ²³ *Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;* ²⁴ *But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;* ²⁵ *Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.*

Paul confirmed this in his epistle to the Galatians, 3:26,29; ²⁶ *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.* ²⁹ *And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. And then in 4:4-7,* ⁴ *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,* ⁵ *To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.* ⁶ *And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.* ⁷ *Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

Paul is saying that N. T. Christians are the adopted sons of Abraham. They are justified by faith, as Abraham was. The Jews will have the land of Canaan, including the New Jerusalem that shall come down from God out of heaven...and God will dwell with them and be their God, Rev 21 verses 1-3.

But the reign of the Lord Jesus will be over the whole earth. Zech 9:8,9 - ⁹ *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.* ¹⁰ *And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.* Also, Ps 72:8. These will be the lands where the Gentiles will dwell in the Kingdom. Daniel in 7:13,14,27 also speaks of the kingdom. ¹³ *I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.* ¹⁴ *And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.* ²⁷ *And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*

When will this glorious age come? The prophets speak of this time. David in Psalm 110, verse 1 says, *The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.* This Kingdom will not be won without a battle. Notice verse 5, ⁵ *The Lord at thy right hand (we have seen that this is the Lord Jesus Christ) shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.* Peter makes this time abundantly plain in Acts 3:19-21. ¹⁹ *Repent ye therefore, and be*

converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.
²⁰ And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: ²¹ Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. The Eden of God will be restored, but, I believe, even more glorious and wonderful!

Notice what some of these prophets prophesied of this glorious Kingdom.

Isaiah 2:2-4 - *And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*

Is 11:1-11 - *And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. And 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, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 65:17-25 - *For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.*

And the prophet Daniel echoes the hopeful words of Isaiah of the lifting of the curse and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness in an eternal kingdom in a new earth. Daniel 2:44 - *And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.*

Micah 4:1-8 echoes the same. *But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever. In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted; And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever. And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.*

The Psalmist also sings of these glorious days, as he praises God in his song. Psalm 72 - *Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son. He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment. The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness. He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor. They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations. He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth. In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth. He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth. They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust. The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him. For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight. And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; and daily shall he be praised. There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth. His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed. Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen. The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.*

Jeremiah plainly tells us of the day when the Kingdom of God shall come in Jer 23:5-8, ⁵ *Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.* ⁶ *In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.* ⁷ *Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;* ⁸ *But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.*

I believe from what we have studied so far that the Son of David, the righteous Branch, the King refers to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is said of him that he *shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth*. Some would say that this refers to the present time! Now, if this statement refers to his deity, this would be true, but the reference here is not to his deity, but to his humanity, the Son of David. Next notice he shall reign *in the earth*. You will remember that the angels told the disciples, when the Lord ascended into heaven, that *this same Jesus, which if taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven*, Acts 1:11. Luke then tells us that they were standing on the Mount of Olives. Zechariah illuminates this in chapter 14. When the LORD will vs 2 *gather all*

nations against Jerusalem to battle,, vs 3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations...vs 4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem. Vs 5, and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee, that is, those who have been raptured, and, vs 9, the LORD shall be king over all the earth. So the LORD is coming back to this earth, where he shall reign forever and ever in his Theocratic Kingdom.

⁷Therefore, Jeremiah 23:7,8 says, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; ⁸But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land. This is a description of no previous gathering of Israel.

The Apostle Paul concisely sums up the time which we are taught to pray for - *thy kingdom come* in Heb 9:28 - ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Paul charged Timothy in 2 Tim 4:1, *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom*; (notice that the kingdom will come when Christ appears) ²Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;⁴And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. ⁶For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

So the Theocratic Kingdom of the Lord Jesus will come when he comes again! It must be left for another day to examine where the millennial kingdom fits in with the eternal Kingdom.

Are you looking, expectantly, for the Lord Jesus second coming? Our Confession Ch. 33, Sec. 3, aptly says,

“As Christ would have us to be certainly persuaded that there shall be a day of judgment, both to deter all men from sin and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity, so will he have that day unknown to men, that they may shake off all carnal security and be always watchful because they know not at what hour the Lord will come and may be ever prepared to say, Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.”