

"The Earthly Kingdom of Jesus Christ"

Part 6

Deuteronomy 17

Introduction: Last week in our study of the Kingdom we looked at how the Mosaic Covenant impacted the promise of the Kingdom. God had made a covenant with Abram, and it was an unconditional covenant which means it rested completely upon the faithfulness of God and not Abram.

Genesis 15:7-18

⁷ *And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.*

⁸ *And he said, LORD God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?*

⁹ *And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.*

¹⁰ *And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.*

¹¹ *And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.*

¹² *And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.*

¹³ *And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;*

¹⁴ *And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.*

¹⁵ *And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.*

¹⁶ *But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.*

¹⁷ *And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.*

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:

God later established 3 sub-covenants that simply reinforced the Abrahamic Covenant. They were the Land, Davidic and the New Covenants. Each one pertains to a certain aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant. The LAND, the SEED, and the BLESSING. The Abrahamic promises are all literal promises. This means that Isarel MUST one day inhabit their land and there MUST be a King that reigns upon the throne of David on this earth. These promises MUST be fulfilled, and they will be, and they will be fulfilled for God's sake.

Isaiah 48:8-11

⁸ Yea, thou heardest not; yea, thou knewest not; yea, from that time that thine ear was not opened: for I knew that thou wouldest deal very treacherously, and wast called a transgressor from the womb.

⁹ For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

¹⁰ Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

¹¹ For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another.

Ezekiel 20:8-14

⁸ But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

⁹ But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.

¹⁰ Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness.

¹¹ And I gave them my statutes, and shewed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them.

¹² Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

¹³ But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my sabbaths they greatly polluted: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.

¹⁴ But **I wrought for my name's sake**, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

God cannot cut Israel off because He has made the Covenants and if He cuts them then He would be found a liar before the entire world. So the Abrahamic, Land, and New Covenants assures Israel of the land, seed and blessings and the Mosaic Covenant gives the conditions required to enjoy all of this. They are required to walk in obedience, and they must accept the King which God sets over them.

Exodus 19:5-6

⁵ Now therefore, **if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant**, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

⁶ And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Deuteronomy 17:14-15

¹⁴ When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me;

¹⁵ Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, **whom the LORD thy God shall choose**: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.

Now when God gave the Mosaic Covenant, He established a small version of the Theocratic Kingdom within the Nation of Israel. Moses became the Theocratic Administrator (not over the world), but over Israel. God was working with Israel to show the world what He desired to do and how He planned to govern the world. Then after Moses He used Joshua and then the Judges and after the Judges, God used the kings. All the way through 1st and

2nd Kings we can see the kings acting as theocratic administrators as God demonstrates to the world His plan. Some of the kings did well and others did not.

➤ **The Kings and the End of the Kingdom**

The first three kings were Saul, David and Solomon. Each of these kings reigned for about 40 years each. Their reign ending with Solomon takes us right up to the divided kingdom. Each of these three reigned over the united kingdom. Now there is a clause in the Mosaic Covenant coning the kings and how they were to live.

Notice Deuteronomy 17:15-20

The king was to live by these principles and to remind him he was commanded to hand write the Law so that he would know exactly what it said. He was not to multiply horses or gold and silver or wives. Solomon in his reign seemed determined to live in complete rebellion to this passage.

1 Kings 11:1-9

But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites:

² Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.

³ And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

⁴ For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

⁵ For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

⁶ And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.

⁷ Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

⁸ *And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.*

⁹ *And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,*

Because of what was stated in the Mosaic Covenant God had to bring discipline upon Israel. Right after Solomon left the throne God divided the kingdom. There were then ten northern tribes known as Israel and two southern tribes known as Judah. The ten northern tribes continued down the path of disobedience and God brought the discipline. Now let us be reminded of what the pinnacle of discipline would be.

Deuteronomy 28:47-50

⁴⁷ *Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;*

⁴⁸ *Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.*

⁴⁹ *The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;*

⁵⁰ *A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:*

These curses would be carried out on the ten northern tribes.

2 Kings 17:1-6

In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel nine years.

² *And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him.*

³ *Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents.*

⁴ *And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.*

⁵ *Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.*

⁶ *In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.*

The ten northern tribes were taken into captivity by the Assyrians in 722 BC. Now you would think the two southern tribes would learn from what happened to Israel but they didn't. They actually became worse than Israel and God brought discipline against them also. In 586 BC which was 136 years after the Assyrian captivity, Judah was also taken into captivity by the Babylonians.

2 Kings 25:8-12

⁸ *And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:*

⁹ *And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.*

¹⁰ *And all the army of the Chaldees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.*

¹¹ **Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away.**

¹² *But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.*

When this happened 2 very significant things happened. First the Theocratic Administrator disappeared from the earth and something else. Before we see what else happened here let me show you what took place when Solomon built the temple.

1 Kings 8:10-11

¹⁰ And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

¹¹ So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

When Solomon built the temple the Shekinah Glory filled the temple. Now when the Babylonians came in 586 BC the Shekinah Glory departed from the temple. We read of this in Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 11:21-23

²¹ But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.

²² Then did the cherubims lift up their wings, and the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.

²³ And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood upon the mountain which is on the east side of the city.

Now let me show you what happens in the Theocratic Kingdom at the end of the Tribulation.

Ezekiel 43:2-5

² And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory.

³ And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city: and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face.

⁴ And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.

⁵ So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Conclusion: We cannot possibly be in the Kingdom now because the Shekinah Glory is not filling the temple. I point this out because there are many today who teach that we are in the Kingdom now. __