

## **Christ's Present Reign in His Kingdom**

David Lipe

### **Introduction**

1. Much contemporary thinking in the denominational world claims that Jesus is not presently reigning as King.
2. The purpose of this lesson is to show that Christ is currently reigning in His eternal kingdom.

### **I. The Death of Christ Was According to Prophecy**

- A. The purpose of the first coming of Christ was not to live and reign on earth for a thousand years but to be crucified (Isa. 52, 53; Acts 8).
- B. Christ was delivered up and crucified in accordance with God's eternal plan (Acts 2:23; cf. Luke 22:22) and not because He was surprisingly rejected.

### **II. The Burial of Christ Was According to Prophecy**

- A. Isaiah says, "And He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death..." (53:9a).
- B. Many passages show the fulfillment of this prophecy (Matt. 27:57-60; Luke 23:53; Mark 15:46; John 19:42).

### **III. The Resurrection of Christ Was According to Prophecy**

- A. Psalm 16:10 says, "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption" (cf. Acts 2:29-32).
- B. It was never in God's plan for Christ to come and reign on earth a literal one thousand years, but that He should be crucified at the end of a brief ministry on earth (just as He was) and be raised from the dead (just as He was).

### **IV. The Coronation of Christ Was According to Prophecy**

- A. 2 Samuel 7:12-14 makes it clear that Jesus is presently reigning as King over His kingdom (cf. Heb. 1:5; Acts 2:29).
- B. In Acts 2:30-31, God had sworn to David that He would set one of David's descendants upon David's throne (cf. Acts 2:33).

### **V. The Establishment of the Kingdom Was According to Prophecy**

- A. When was the kingdom established? The Bible teaches that the kingdom was set up on the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ from the dead (Dan. 2:32, 44; Dan. 7; Matt. 4:17; 3:1-2; Luke 10:9; Matt. 16:18b-19a; Col. 1:13; Heb. 12:28; Mark 9:1; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4).
- B. What is the nature of the kingdom? Jesus came to establish the kind of kingdom (spiritual) which He actually did set up (John 6:15; Luke 23:15; John 18:33-37).
- C. How long is the kingdom to last? (Dan. 2:44; Luke 1:33; Heb. 12:28; Acts 2:34-35; 1 Cor. 15:25, 26)

### **Conclusion**

1. Contrary to the doctrine of premillennialism, it was not the purpose of Christ to come into this world to sit on a literal throne in a literal city for a literal one thousand years.
2. Jesus does not have to wait until He comes again to be crowned King; He is already King—King of an eternal kingdom.
3. Only those who believe and obey the message of the King can be citizens of the kingdom.