

Interpretation Study Handout

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel

October 24th, 2021

Writings of LR Shelton on Israel of God continued...

“We know from the words of our Lord himself as he stood before Pilate that the kingdom over which He would rule was not an earthly kingdom, but a spiritual: ‘Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence’ (John 18:36). And as the Amplified puts it: ‘My kingdom (kingly, royal power) belongs not to this world, has no such origin or source here.’ This to me is very emphatic that our Lord never came to set up an earthly kingdom, and it has never been in His eternal purpose to do so.”

“Every promise in the Old Testament where the future throne of David is mentioned (2 Sam 7:16; Pss 89:3-4; Isa 9:6-7, 55:3; Jer 33:1-2), and every Scripture in the New Testament confirms Peter's statement of Christ ruling and reigning upon David's spiritual throne in heaven.”

“Now there are those who would limit the kingdom to a period of 1000 years, place it in the future altogether, and give it a prescribed location on the earth with the Jews being the principle actors and Christ with His disciples sitting on an earthly throne ruling with a rod of iron...This is false; it is utter folly, for this is foreign to the teachings of those Scriptures which plainly teach that God's kingdom is eternal. Ps 145:13, ‘Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.’ Not only is it eternal, but it is not involved with geography at all. Our Lord said to the Pharisees: ‘The kingdom of God cometh not with observation.. .behold the kingdom of God is within you’ (Luke 17:20-21). It is a thing in us and not outside of us in pomp and splendor: ‘For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit’ (Rom 14:17).

“Paul preached of this kingdom of God which is the rule and reign of Christ in the heart and operative in the life. Acts 19:8, ‘And Paul went into the synagogue and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God,’ which is the rule and the reign of Christ the King in the hearts and lives of His people who make up His kingdom. Listen again to Acts 20:25 as Paul sums up to the Ephesian elders his preaching among them: ‘And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.’”

Interpreting Rev. 5:10 – From Jamison Faucett and Brown commentary: “Alford takes this reading and explains it of the church, even now in Christ her head reigning on the earth: all things are being put under her feet, as under His, her kingly office and rank are asserted, even in the midst of persecution.’ They go on then to state (with honesty they cannot agree with Alford) as “it is in the prophetic present for the future when the full number of the redeemed (represented by the four living creatures) shall be complete and the visible kingdom begins.” The rest of the explanation then becomes so confusing, it is not worth quoting.

Interpreting the “Day of the Lord.”

Isaiah 13:6-16 (see Vs. 11) near & far application. Commentary of M. Henry – “Though Babylon be a little world, yet, being a wicked world, it shall not go unpunished. Sin brings desolation on the world of the ungodly; and when the kingdoms of the earth are quarrelling with one another it is the fruit of God's controversy with them all. 2. That pride must now have its fall: *The haughtiness of the terrible* must now be *laid low*, particularly of Nebuchadnezzar and his son Belshazzar, who had, in their pride, trampled upon, and made themselves very terrible to the people of God. *A man's pride will bring him low.*”

Joel 1:15; 2:1; 2:11; 2:30-3:2 – see 3:18-21 – M. Henry “That the church of Christ shall continue in the world to the end of time. As one generation of professing Christians passes away, another shall come, in whom the *throne of Christ shall endure forever*, and *the gates of hell shall not prevail* against it. (2.) That all the living members of that church (Judah and Jerusalem are put for the *inhabitants* of that city and country, [Mat 3:5](#)) shall be established in their happiness to the utmost ages of eternity. This new Jerusalem shall be *from generation to generation*, for it is a city that has foundations, not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens.”

The issue for Christians is interpretation:

The phrase – the “Day of the Lord” as literal interpretation.

- Passages concerning “the day of the Lord” in general:
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- Passages concerning “the day of the Lord” in relation to Israel:
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Summary:

God’s purpose for the tribulation or Day of the Lord:

Thoughts related to the rapture before the time of the tribulation:
