

Daniel And The Kingdom

Is the kingdom the church? If the kingdom is the church, then all of the "end time" prophecies of Jesus establishing a kingdom on the earth made by the vast majority of denominations are false. There are two prominent prophecies about the kingdom in Daniel. The first is in 2:31-45. After laying out the coming four kingdoms beginning in Daniel's time (Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Grecian, and Roman), Daniel foretold of a kingdom which would be established and would never be destroyed. The second is in 7:1-27. In this prophecy, the fourth world kingdom, Rome, would have a ruler, Domitian, who would persecute God's children. According to the prophecy, the people of God, having endured these trials at the end of the first century, would ultimately triumph.

There are many ways that we can know that the kingdom of which Daniel spoke is the church. The New Testament does an outstanding job of showing the connection in explicit language. First, the terms "church" and "kingdom" are used interchangeably (Matthew 16:18-19; Hebrews 12:23, 28). Second, all the references to the church and kingdom before Pentecost are anticipatory; after Pentecost they are in the present tense (Acts 2:47; 8:1; Colossians 1:13; Revelation 1:9).

On October 14-16, the Loop 287 Church of Christ will host a special series of lectures on three topics: Daniel and his prophecies of the future, Daniel and his viewpoints of the Messiah, and Daniel and the coming kingdom of God. We want to invite you to be our guest on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings on October 14-16 at 7:30 p.m. to investigate each of these fascinating topics in depth.

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