

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

ISRAEL: PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

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PART 1: GLORY OF THE PAST

It is now 1,985 years ago since Jesus was crucified on the cross and then resurrected.

- ❖ When will the second return of Jesus take place?
- ❖ What is the difference between the Kingdom of Israel and the political state of Israel?
- ❖ Was the formation of the political state of Israel a prophetic sign that the end is near?

I will seek to answer these questions by letting the Bible speak to us.

SECOND RETURN OF JESUS

All believers in Christ are waiting for His second return and the apostles were no exception. We have three references when they asked for details about Him coming back. **Matthew 24:3; Mark 13:3; Luke 21:7**

Jesus made it clear that the day of His return was known only to God the Father; Jesus didn't even know the day He would be coming back. **Matthew 24:35-36; Mark 13:31-32**

Jesus did provide the following clues that would precede His second coming: deception, false Christs, wars, rumors of wars, famines, pestilences and earthquakes. **verses 4-8**

The Book of Revelation did not exist at the time Jesus spoke these words and thus the apostles were not able to understand the signs. In reading the Book of Revelation, it becomes clear that catastrophic famines, pestilences and earthquakes will take place during the reign of the Antichrist and intensify during the latter part of the period known as the Great Tribulation. **Matthew 24:21-22**

THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

Another question burning in the apostle's minds was when Jesus would restore the Kingdom of Israel (KOI). **Acts 1:6**

Jesus responded that it wasn't for them to know the time when the KOI would be restored. **verse 7**

The Kingdom of Israel (KOI) is not the same as the Kingdom of God (KOG), which is also known as the Kingdom of Heaven (KOH). The KOI is an earthly institution and the KOG is a spiritual kingdom. John the Baptist and Jesus spoke about the KOG. **Matthew 3:2; 6:33; 10:7**

Jesus made it clear that the Kingdom of God (KOG) is not earthly; it is a spiritual kingdom that encompasses the earth and all people are to become its citizens. **John 18:36; Matthew 28:18-20; Colossians 1:12-15**

The current political state of Israel (PSOI) is not a kingdom, but a secular democracy created and run by men.



The Kingdom of Israel (KOI) began about 1,000 years before Christ and only lasted for 122 years. It started with King Saul (42 years), then King David (40 years) and ended with King Solomon (40 years). The KOI was divided into two parts after Solomon's death with Israel in the north (10 tribes) and Judah in the south (2 tribes).

The Israelites had been warned that their presence in the Promised Land depended solely upon obedience; if they rebelled, they would lose the land. **Deuteronomy 28:58-68**

The northern kingdom with its capital of Samaria was conquered around 727 B.C. and the people carried away into captivity by the Assyrians. The southern kingdom with its capital of Jerusalem was conquered around 586 B.C. by the Babylonians and the majority of the people who were not killed were taken to Babylon as prisoners.

Remnants of the 10 northern tribes returned and became known as Samaritans; another 42,360 captive Jews returned from Babylon after 70 years of captivity. **Ezra 2:1, 64-65; Luke 10:1-2**

Remnants of the 12 tribes came back to the Promised Land, but it was always ruled by different nations and the Kingdom of Israel (KOI) has not been restored since it was lost because of disobedience.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?