

COUNTERFEIT KINGDOMS

By Brother Mike Sutherland

When we speak of a New Testament kingdom, it is not the kingdom of the church. Scripturally speaking, that kingdom can be none other than the kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of God.

The Bible knows no other kingdoms in the New Testament. The only earthly kingdom that is promised to Christians is that great Millennial Kingdom that follows the Second Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ in Revelation 19. The Millennial Kingdom is the 1,000 year earthly reign of the Lord Jesus Christ that takes place between his Second Advent and the Great White Throne Judgment.

The only way you can pervert the church into a kingdom is to replace Israel with the church. That generates numerous other fallacies and contradictions that fly in the face of logic and reason and a literal reading and interpretation of the Scriptures. I am not a very smart man, but I do know that it is not wise to speculate to the point of surety beyond what God has literally stated in his word. If you do, you are putting words in God's mouth that he did not say. It is beyond utter foolish speculation to say, "God must have meant". No, he meant what he said..... literally....! I do not have to speculate. To do so results in the utter confusion that we see in most churches in America in 2024.

If you believe the church has replaced Israel as the physical kingdom of God I challenge you to take all 75 occurrences of the word "Israel" in the New Testament and replace them with the phrase "the church" and you will see the utter foolishness of the heresy of Replacement Theology. It is a doctrine straight out of the pits of hell. It is a doctrine that negates every "for ever" and "everlasting" that God stated in the unconditional Abrahamic Covenants in the Old Testament. Replacement Theology is a most hateful doctrine that came slithering up out of the pits and crypts of Satan's theology. Now, what does the Bible say about the kingdoms?

The word "kingdom" occurs 163 times in 154 verses in the New Testament. Never, ever is the word "kingdom" used to describe an earthly "kingdom of the church". God did not, and has not, granted scriptural authority to the church to exercise earthly reigning authority. You will not find the phrase "kingdom of the church" used anywhere in your Bible. In *Mark 8:15*, the Lord Jesus Christ warned the apostles to beware of the leaven of Herod. Specifically he said: "And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod". The "leaven of the Pharisees" is the leaven of false religion. The Pharisees and Sadducees were the controlling false religious authority for the Jews in the days of the Lord Jesus Christ on this earth. The "leaven of Herod" is the leaven of state sponsored and state controlled religion. Herod was the controlling secular governmental authority when the Lord Jesus Christ was confronting the Pharisees. The "leaven of Herod" is government interference in the church. During the time of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Jewish high priest(s) served at the pleasure of the Roman government contrary to Old Testament scriptural dictates. In effect, the state had veto power over who could serve as the Jewish High Priest. We know that was under the curse of God.

Regardless of what country you go to, either in the present, or historically, you will not find a state sponsored "Christian" church that was not started in corruption and ultimately ends up being in bed with the MOTHER OF HARLOTS. *Revelation 17* is the "Kingdom Now Church". *Revelation 18* is the state sponsor of the "Kingdom Now Church". In state sponsored churches, it is the secular government that ultimately dictates what doctrines can and cannot be preached and taught. If you say "Au contraire", you have been deceived and are being deceived. "But evil men and seducers shall

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wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived”(2 *Timothy* 3:13). Welcome to modern America where ungodly states with the support of the God hating Federal government have passed hate speech laws whose ultimate goal is to imprison and destroy any who would preach and teach against sin in general, but especially those who would preach against the sins of abortion, sodomy, the transgender movement in general, and the mutilation of children through sex change operations. State sponsored churches have been the greatest persecutor of Bible believing Christians in the history of the false church. It is not just been churches, but it has been false religion in general that has been among some of the most bloodthirsty tyrants in the history of the world. We will talk more on that later.

There are Christian false religions and other pagan religions that have established themselves as state sponsored religions. If we look around the world today we see at least 84 countries that either have official state sponsored religions in their governing documents such as their “constitutions” or they have statements or confessions, in their governing documents allowing government support of a specific religion. There are 48 countries that have government established state religions in their governing documents. There are an additional 31 countries that mention specific religions in their governing documents as having favor with the government. What follows is a very broad breakdown of those state sponsored religions. You have 26 nations that have established the religion of Islam as their official state religion. You have 5 nations that lend official support to Islam. There is no religious liberty in any of the Islamic nations. The largest sect in Islam is the Sunnis with the Shiites being the second largest sect. Though Indonesia has neither a state sponsored official religion or a supporting statement in their governing documents, they have a Sunni Islamic population that is second to none. There are 4 nations that have Buddhism as their official state religion. There is 1 (one) nation that lends its official support to Buddhism. There are 5 nations that have Catholicism as their official state religion. There are 14 nations that lend support to Catholicism in their governing documents. There are 4 nations that have Evangelical Lutheranism as their official state religion. In addition, there are 3 other nation that lend support in their governing documents to Evangelical Lutheranism. There are 4 nations that have Anglicanism as their official state religion. Anglicanism is the Church of England. There are 2 nations that have Presbyterianism/Calvinism as their official state religions. Finally, there are 5 nations that have Communism as their official state religion. There are two stand outs among these religions. All of the world’s false religions including apostate and heretical Christianity will show up in the brothel of the MOTHER OF HARLOTS.

Two of the official state religions we have just mentioned have a sordid history of attempting to establish a worldwide theocratic kingdom by shedding the blood of Bible believing Christians and Jews. Those two religions are Catholicism and Islam. In the past 450 years, Islam has been at the forefront of persecuting, torturing, and murdering Christians and Jews. As wicked and vile as they were, the atrocities of Adolf Hitler and the Third Reich are but a drop in the bucket compared to the actions of the most wicked religion on the face of the earth, and that is Islam. Islam is Satan’s master religion. Islam’s wickedness is justified, lauded, and promoted in the vile pages of the Koran and the Hadiths. However, Christians are specifically forbidden to take such actions. The Lord Jesus Christ had the following to say in *John* 16:1-3 on the subject before us:

¹ These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. ² They shall

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put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.³ And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. *John 16:1-3*

At the bottom line, persecution and murder in the name of religion is at the heart of not knowing God the Father or God the Son. It is an issue of unbelief. Islam thinks they do God a service when they kill Jews and Christians. Such is the nature of an Islamic theocratic kingdom ruled by wicked men. Little known to most Christians is the political and geographic power that Islam has held in the world. Speaking strictly from the perspective of how much land was controlled as a percentage of the world's land area, of the top 49 empires, Islam has controlled 13 of those empires. Of the top ten empires, Islamic empires occupy slots 7 and 8. Contrast that with the empires that appear in the pages of the Bible including Persia (Achaemenid Empire) in slot 20, Greece (Macedonian Empire) in slot 21, and Rome (Roman Empire) in slot 24. Of the Islamic empires, perhaps the most vile and bloodthirsty was the Turkish Ottoman Empire that came apart in 1922. It will be revived in Ezekiel 38 and 39! That revival is the dream of the current reprobate Islamic dictator of Turkey by the name of Recep Erdogan. I digress: continuing on.

Catholicism has also thought to do God a service by persecuting, torturing, and murdering Bible believing Christians that they falsely accuse of being heretics. They also must shoulder most of the blame for the world's attempts to exterminate the Jewish people. Such is the nature of a Catholic theocratic kingdom ruled by wicked men whose chief architects are the Jesuit priests who are the Devil's executioners. Violence has been a much used tool by heretical and apostate Christianity in the pursuit of church kingdom building. That would include the atrocities that Bible believers suffered at the hands of the Protestant Reformers. The Holy Ghost said this through the apostle Paul:

² But I beseech *you*, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) *2 Corinthians 10:2-4*

We are not to use men's carnal weapons of warfare to force people to believe as we do or to promote so-called Christian kingdom building. If your weapons are carnal, they cannot be of God. We have false churches that have not known God trying to build a visible Christian kingdom because they have been poisoned and corrupted by the heresy of Replacement Theology. Their rejection of the Jew and Israel has spiritually blinded them. There are at least 14 different passages of Scripture that prove that the church is a strictly a spiritually entity that can have no visible, physical geographic boundaries. Those 14 passages include *John 18:33-37, Revelation 11:14-15, Matthew 20:20-27, Matthew 25:31-34, Luke 17:20-21, Luke 19:11, Luke 22:15-18, Luke 22:28-30, Acts 1:6-8, Romans 14:17, 1 Corinthians 15:50, Colossians 1:13, 2 Timothy 4:1, and 2 Timothy 4:18*. All 14 passages are quoted below for your instruction in righteousness:

³³ Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto

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him, Art thou the King of the Jews? ³⁴ Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? ³⁵ Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? ³⁶ 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. ³⁷ Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. *John 18:33-37*

¹⁴ The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. ¹⁵ And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. *Revelation 11:14-15*

²⁰ Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping *him*, and desiring a certain thing of him. ²¹ And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. ²² But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. ²³ And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but *it shall be given to them* for whom it is prepared of my Father. ²⁴ And when the ten heard *it*, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. ²⁵ But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. ²⁶ But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; ²⁷ And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: *Matthew 20:20-27*

³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: *Matthew 25:31-34*

²⁰ And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:

²¹ Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is

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within you. *Luke 17:20-21*

¹¹ And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. *Luke 19:11*

¹⁵ And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: ¹⁶ For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. ¹⁷ And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide *it* among yourselves: ¹⁸ For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. *Luke 22:15-18*

²⁸ Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. ²⁹ And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; ³⁰ That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. *Luke 22:28-30*

⁶ When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? ⁷ And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. ⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. *Acts 1:6-8*

¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. *Romans 14:17*

⁵⁰ Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. *1 Corinthians 15:50*

¹³ Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: *Colossians 1:13*

¹ I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; *2 Timothy 4:1*

¹⁸ And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen. *2 Timothy 4:18*

If we were to summarize those 14 passages the utmost conclusion would have to be that Christ's kingdom in its current state is not of this world. Those 14 passages of Scripture should settle the issue, but I am sure it will not because many of Satan's sinister ministers have beat God to the punch

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by programing themselves to believe a lie. Such is the deluded state of those that are deceiving and being deceived. Tragically, they are already camped out in *2 Thessalonians 2:9-10*. The end result is that those who hate the truth are literally blinded by the light that they reject.