



Lesson 17 – The Kingdom of God Is at Hand

1) Who did John the Baptist preach to?

Matthew 3:5-6 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all _____, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, _____ their sins.

The Messiah's coming had been first announced in Judea. In the temple at Jerusalem the birth of the forerunner had been foretold to Zacharias as he ministered before the altar. On the hills of Bethlehem, the angels had proclaimed the birth of Jesus. To Jerusalem the magi had come in search of Him. In the temple Simeon and Anna had testified to His divinity.

2) Who continued the message after John was imprisoned?

Mark 1:14-15 Now after that John was put in prison, _____ came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is _____, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

In Judea, Christ had received His first disciples. Here much of His early ministry had been spent. The flashing forth of His divinity in the cleansing of the temple, His miracles of healing, and the lessons of divine truth that fell from His lips, all proclaimed that which after the healing at Bethesda He had declared before the Sanhedrin, **His Sonship to the Eternal.**

3) Jesus declared above the time is at hand, what was He talking about?

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to _____ the most Holy.

4) How do we interpret time prophecies?

Numbers 14:34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a _____, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

Ezekiel 4:6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each _____ for a year.

The seventy weeks, or four hundred and ninety days, represent four hundred and ninety years.

5) What was the starting point for the prophecy?

Daniel 9:25-26 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to _____ and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be **seven** weeks, and threescore and two weeks (**62**): the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks (**62+the original 7**) shall _____ be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.



The commandment to restore and build Jerusalem, as completed by the decree of Artaxerxes Longimanus (see **Ezra 6:14; 7:1, 9**), went into effect in the autumn of B.C. 457. From this time four hundred and eighty-three years extend to the autumn of A.D. 27. According to the prophecy, this period was to reach to the Messiah, the Anointed One. In A. D. 27, Jesus at His baptism received the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and soon afterward began His ministry. Then the message was proclaimed. **“The time is fulfilled.”**

6) What was the final week of the prophecy for?

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the _____ and the _____ to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

In the spring of A.D. 31, Christ the true sacrifice was offered on Calvary. Then the veil of the temple was rent in twain, showing that the sacredness and significance of the sacrificial service had departed. The time had come for the earthly sacrifice and oblation to cease.

7) What happened in A.D. 34 that ended the 70 week prophecy?

Acts 7:59-60 And they _____ Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this _____ to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

8) What did he see that enraged the crowd?

Acts 7:55-56 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus _____ on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the _____ hand of God.

9) What happened next for God’s church?

Acts 8:4 Therefore they that were _____ abroad went every where preaching the word.

The one week - seven years - ended in A.D. 34. Then by the stoning of Stephen the Jews finally sealed their rejection of the gospel; the disciples who were scattered abroad by persecution **“went everywhere preaching the word” (Acts 8:4)**; and shortly after, Saul the persecutor was converted, and became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

10) Was prophetic study important to Christ?

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him _____:)

11) What did Jesus do with His disciples after His resurrection?

Luke 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he _____ unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

12) What did Peter say about prophetic study?

1 Peter 1:11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them (prophetic writings) did signify, when it _____ beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

13) What blessing was pronounced by Jesus?

Revelation 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and _____ those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.



14) Will God withhold any good thing from His church?

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he _____ his secret unto his servants the prophets.

The Almighty has never withheld any good knowledge from us. We are not in the dark concerning what lies ahead.

15) What promise is given in Deuteronomy?

Deuteronomy 29:29 The _____ things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

God has given these things to us, and His blessing will attend the reverent, prayerful study of the prophetic scriptures.

16) What did Daniel predict?

Daniel 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be _____.

(note: Jesus pronounced a blessing to unseal the book when He walked this earth, we can know what is therein contained)

17) What promise did God make?

Daniel 12:10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall _____.

As the message of Christ's first advent announced the kingdom of His grace, so the message of His second advent announces the kingdom of His glory. And the second message, like the first, is based on the prophecies. The words of the angel to Daniel relating to the last days were to be understood in the time of the end.

18) When we see the insanity of the world around, what admonition did Jesus give us?

Luke 21:31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is _____ at hand.

Luke 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with _____, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Luke 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to _____ all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

We have reached the period foretold in these scriptures. The time of the end is come, the visions of the prophets are unsealed, and their solemn warnings point us to our Lord's coming in glory as near at hand

The Jews misinterpreted and misapplied the word of God, and they knew not the time of their visitation. The years of the ministry of Christ and His apostles, the precious last years of grace to the chosen people, they spent in plotting the destruction of the Lord's messengers. Earthly ambitions absorbed them, and the offer of the spiritual kingdom came to them in vain. So today the kingdom of this world absorbs men's thoughts, and they take no note of the rapidly fulfilling prophecies and the tokens of the swift-coming kingdom of God.



19) What words of wisdom from Paul should we dwell on?

1 Thessalonians 5:4-6 But ye, brethren, are not in _____, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of _____, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us _____ and be sober.

Can you see that God has not left us in the dark?

Are you comforted to know He is watching out for you?

When is the time walk by faith?

