

A KINGDOM NOT OF THIS WORLD

Jhn 18:33-37

INTRODUCTION:

- A. In the religious world today there is a great deal of confusion in regard to the kingdom of Christ just as there was in the first century. Note (NKJV and NAS95 v.37) A declarative question – the most likely response is agreement or affirmation
- B. In our text Jesus said His kingdom was not of this world. If it were then his servants would fight in order not to be delivered to the Jews.
- C. Let's notice three characteristics of this kingdom that make it not of this world

DISCUSSION:

I. IT HAS A KING NOT OF (pertaining to) THIS WORLD

- A. Not of this world in his origin
 - 1. Pre-existent (v.37 "to this end am I come into the world")
 - 2. Note also Phil 2:5-11; Jhn 5:30; 8:23
- B. Not of this world in character
 - 1 "They are not of this world even as I am not of this world Jhn 17:16 ("they" = the apostles)
 - 2. ".In all points tempted like as we are yet without sin" Heb 4:15
 - 3. Neither sought nor loved the things of this world the world has known good kings, but never one of this character.
- C. Not of this world in the tenure of his kingly office
 - 1. Even greatest worldly kingdoms flourish then fade (David, Solomon)
 - 2. His kingdom and rule to outlast this world Lk 1:31-33; Dan 2:44
 - 3. His reign consummated in victory, not defeat 1Cor 15:24-28
 - 4. NOW reigning Eph 1:20-23; Col 1:13; Acts 2:36

II. IT HAS LAWS NOT OF THIS WORLD

- A. They are not of this world in their origin
 - 1. "from heaven or from men?" Matt 21:25 (principle)
 - 2. Not of man Gal 1:11,12; 1Thess 2:13
- B. Only the sovereign king has legislative authority Matt 28:18
 - 1. His rule is according to divine truth 1Cor 9:21 2Jhn 1:9,10
 - 2. "to him shall ye hearken in all things" Acts 3:22,23
 - 3. His kingdom a monarchy, not a democracy governed by voice of people, by ecclesiastical councils, popes, elders, etc.

- C. Laws not of this world in their nature
 - 1. Not according to man's wisdom nor appealing to carnal nature Rom 8:7.
 - 2. Sermon on Mt. "astonished" hearers Matt 7:28,29
- D. Laws not of this world in their design and power
 - 1. Intended to bring men to faith Jhn 20:30,31; and they are able to do so Rom 10:17
 - 2. Intended to convict, persuade, convert Jhn 16:8; and able to do so. Psa 19:7
 - 3. Ultimate aim is salvation Rom 1:16; Jhn 8:32; and able to do so Jas 1:21
 - 4. Basis of fellowship with heaven 2Jhn 1:9; 1Jhn 2:3
 - 5. "Laws" of this world have no such power

III. IT HAS SUBJECTS THAT ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD

- A. In their conduct
 - 1. Not conformed to this world Rom 12:1,2; no fellowship with it Eph 5:11
 - 2. Keep selves unspotted from the world Jas 1:27
- B. In their thinking, values, objectives
 - 1. Affections on things above Col 3:1,2
 - 2. Seek first God's kingdom then material things Matt 6:33
 - 3. We labor to be accepted of Him 2Cor 5:9
- C. In their destiny
 - 1. Our hope is heaven Col 1:4,5
 - 2. We look for eternal life Matt 25:46

CONCLUSION:

- A. Have you subjected yourself to the laws of the King of this kingdom, Jesus Christ?
- B. If not then you are a subject of a kingdom that is of this world and not a subject of this kingdom which is not of this world.
- C. Note the two destinies according to Matt 7:13,14