Not Of This World

Greg Kline · John 18:33–37

INTRODUCTION

- My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting that I might not be delivered over to the Jews.
- It was not to reign from Jerusalem and make Israel a political superpower once again. It was a spiritual kingdom that Jesus was after.
- What is he saying, my kingdom is not of this world now? But two thousand something plus years in the future, I'm going to establish my throne in Jerusalem.

1 It Limits God's Power

Mark 9:1; Acts 1:6–8; Acts 2:1–4

- Truly I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.
- Jesus tells his disciples that the kingdom coming with power would come when the Holy Spirit has come upon them.
- It came with power when power came with the Holy Spirit upon the apostles on the day of Pentecost in Acts chapter 2.
- God's power is certainly not limited. God's foresight is certainly not flawed, and most importantly, man could not ever, nor have they ever thwarted God's purposes or plans.

2 Christ Is Dethroned

Acts 2:29–36; Ephesians 1:20–23

- It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne.
- He is at the right hand of God. He is reigning. He is on the throne of David.
- Jesus is reigning far above all rule, far above all authority, far above all power, far above all dominion, and above every name that is named.
- He is the head of the church, and he is the king of his kingdom.

3 Misses the Same Point the Jews Missed

John 18:33–36

- This wasn't the one who would bring Israel back to physical, temporal prominence, because they were looking for a physical king.
- Many people who call themselves Christians today believe that there is a time coming when Jesus is going to be on a literal throne in literal Jerusalem.

- When Jesus says, My kingdom is not of this world, he is not saying my kingdom is not of this world now, but that his kingdom is not of this world forever.

4 The Church Is Made a Substitute

Ephesians 3:8–12; Matthew 16:16–19

- Consider very simply, is the church part of God's plan, or was it an audible?
- This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- The church was not an audible. Man did not force God's hand into a backup plan. The church was always God's plan.
- On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

5 New Testament Authors Would Have Been Confused

Colossians 1:13–14; Revelation 1:3–6; Revelation 5:9–10

- He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us where? To the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sin.
- They were actively being placed in the active kingdom of Jesus the Christ, just as God had always planned.
- Jesus has made us a kingdom and priest to our God.
- We absolutely can have forgiveness of sins through Jesus now, because the kingdom is open now, because Jesus, our King, reigns on the throne at the right hand of God right this moment.

6 Changes the Entire Purpose of Christ's Death

Isaiah 53:3–12; Colossians 1:13–14; Acts 2:22–38

- But he was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.
- It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Jesus was always going to have to come if we wanted to be forgiven of our sin.
- We must always remember the purpose of Christ's death was that I might live.
- This Jesus delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Consider with me, every time I sin, I need Jesus. I need my king. I need my priest and king. I need Jesus, our loving King.**

MY NOTES