

The Kingdom from the Heavens

Interpreting the Gospel of Matthew

- The Kingdom from the Heavens is distinct from the Kingdom of God (Mt. 19:23-25).
 - Repent! Why? (Mt. 3:1-2); No longer to wait for Jehovah's return. The Anointed One is back among Israel (Ps. 2:2).
- 1.** The Kingdom from the Heavens during the Old Testament (Dan. chapters 4 and 10; 1 Kings 22:19-22).
 - 1) Ruler: *God the Father-through Good and Bad angels.*
 - 2) Subjects: *All mankind saved and unsaved.*
 - 3) Entry requirements: *be mankind—no faith, no spiritual requirements.*
 - 2.** The Kingdom of God during the Old Testament (Ps. 103:17-22).
 - 1) Ruler: *God the Father reigns personally over subjects.*
 - 2) Subjects: *Good angels and good men only.*
 - 3) Entry requirements: *Men saved by faith, obey God.*
 - 3.** John the Baptizer.
 - 1) Filled by the Holy Spirit from the womb (Lu. 1:15, 41).
 - 2) Two words for filling in New Testament.
 - i. Complete mental control *πίμπλημι πληθω*, during transition (Acts 2:1-4).
 - ii. Make up what is lacking, *πληρώω* (Phil. 4:18; Eph. 5:19).
 - 3) Doubts and thinks unrighteous thoughts (Mt. 11:2-4; Lu. 7:19-20).
 - 4.** The Kingdom from the Heavens offered Mt. chapters 3 - 11.
 - 1) Ruler: *The Christ is Jesus as potential king.*
 - 2) Subjects: *Following Jesus as a disciple—faith not required.*
 - 3) Entry requirements: *Forsake all and follow Jesus thus having exceeded the Scribes and Pharisees.*