

# THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN HISTORY AND PROPHECY

There are two aspects to God's Kingdom rule. His Universal Kingdom and His Mediatorial Kingdom. They differ as to timing, scope and administration:

- 1. TIMING** The Universal Kingdom is God's eternal rule (Psa 10:16, 103:19, 145:13, Lam 5:19) ~ The Mediatorial Kingdom exists within history (Gen 1:26, Psa 8:5, Dan 2:44, 7:13-27, 1 Cor 15:24-28)
- 2. SCOPE** The Universal Kingdom includes everything (Psa 103:19, 1 Chr 29:11, Dan 4:17-32) ~ The Mediatorial Kingdom applies to the rule of the current earth (Dan 2:35, 44-45, Zech 14:4-9, Rev 11:15)
- 3. ADMIN** The Universal Kingdom exerts direct rule (Dan 4:35, 2 Kings 19:35, Isa 14:24-27) ~ The Mediatorial Kingdom is ruled through an intermediary or vice-regent (Psa 2:6-9, Dan 7:13-14, Heb 2:7-10)

At the beginning of creation, God placed Adam on the earth in dominion over all the works of His hands (Gen 1:26-28). Adam was "a little lower than the angels" and was crowned with glory and honour (Psa 8:5-8). He was the King in a Mediatorial Kingdom called earth. He mediated God's authority in this world, being God's vice-regent, ruling over and caring for planet earth. However, Adam rebelled against God and rejected his own role, giving allegiance instead to Satan, whose main aim is to usurp God. With the failure of Adam in his role of headship, Satan became the "god of this world" (2 Cor 4:4) and "the prince of this world" (Jn 12:31). Not having succeeded in usurping the throne of heaven (Isa 14:12-14), he instead usurped the throne on earth. In the "conflict of the ages" throughout the long years of history, Satan has sought to thwart God's purpose to restore His Kingdom on earth, even offering the 'kingdoms of the world' to Christ before the cross (Lu 4:6-8). However, God has never abandoned His original plan to have 'man in dominion' on planet earth. His ultimate eternal purpose is to culminate history with the Man, Christ Jesus (not angels, Heb 2:5), heading up the administration of the Mediatorial Kingdom on earth in the Millennium (Eph 1:11). "The Kingdom of God" and "the Kingdom of heaven" are the same entity, and the titles indicate respectively "Who the rule comes from" (God) and "where rule comes from" (it is heavenly in origin and character).

## THE UNIVERSAL ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD "The Heavens Rule" (Dan 4:26) The Eternal Throne of God - Eternal, Sovereign over all (Psa 10:16, 29:10, 1 Chron 29:11, Dan 4:35)

