The Kingdom Of Priests

I. Kingdom Of Priests
   A. Exodus 19:4–6
      1. Primary purpose of redemption is to bring us to God
      2. Two unvarying conditions to be God’s people
         a. Listen to His voice
         b. Keep His covenant
      3. Three offers of God
         a. Special treasure
         b. Kingdom of priests
         c. Holy nation
   B. Restated in the New Testament
      1. 1 Peter 2:9
      2. Revelation 1:5–6
   C. Function of a priest
      1. Offer sacrifices
      2. Offer gifts

II. The Priestly Ministry Of Jesus
   A. Genesis 14:18
      1. Jesus is High Priest after the order of Melchizedek
      2. Order of Melchizedek combines kingship and priesthood
   B. Jesus sacrificed two things
      1. Hebrews 5:1, 5–7—Prayer (intercession)
      2. Hebrews 9:14—Himself
   C. Jesus, our pattern—Heb. 6:19–7:3, 25
      1. Lives as our High Priest in heaven
      2. Continually making intercession for us

III. Our Corresponding Ministry
   A. Romans 12:1—Present our bodies as living, holy sacrifices
   B. Hebrews 13:15–16
      1. Sacrifice of praise
2. Sacrifice of thanksgiving
3. Doing good
4. Sharing

C. 1 Peter 2:4–5
   1. Offer *spiritual* sacrifices
   2. To be priests we have to learn the priestly ministry of sacrifices
      a. Praise
      b. Thanksgiving
      c. Doing good
      d. Sharing
      e. Intercession

IV. Compared To The Tabernacle Of Moses
   A. The Holy Place—5 main ministries on earth
      1. Apostles
      2. Prophets
      3. Evangelists
      4. Shepherds
      5. Teachers
   B. The two curtains
      1. First curtain signifies resurrection
         Pass from the sense realm into the realm of faith
      2. Second curtain signifies ascension
   C. The Holy of Holies—seated with Christ
      1. Kings
      2. Priests

V. Seven Characteristics Of The Messiah—Zech. 6:12–14
   A. His name is Branch—compare Is. 11:1 & Jer. 23:5
   B. He will branch out of His place—grow up
      1. If you are not in your place you will never grow up
      2. If you are never planted you will not grow up
      3. Planted = commitment
   C. He will build the temple (the Church)
   D. Bear the glory
   E. Rule on His throne as king
   F. He will be a priest
   G. Counsel of peace will be between them

VI. Being Trained To Rule In The Next Phase
   A. Faithfulness
      1. Faithfulness in this phase brings promotion in the next
      2. Matt. 24:45–47, 25:20–23—You will be made a ruler in the next phase if you are faithful in this one
      3. Luke 19:12–19—What you produce in this phase will determine the measure of authority in the next phase
      4. Luke 22:28–30—Faithfulness in hardship, persecution and humility will earn you promotion to glory, honor and authority
5. Rev. 2:26–28—The one who is faithful will be given authority over the nations

The Kingdom Comes Only By Birth

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I. Preview Of The Kingdom On Earth—Isaiah 33:22, 24
A. Verse 22—What the people in the kingdom will say
   1. Our (my) Judge
   2. Our (my) Lawgiver
   3. Our (my) King
B. Verse 24—Result
   1. No room for sin or sickness in the kingdom
   2. Where the kingdom comes the kingdom of darkness and its works are pushed back
C. The Lord is my Judge
   1. I am totally submitted to God’s judgment
   2. I accept His sentence on every area of my life
D. The Lord is my Lawgiver
   1. The Lord sets my lifestyle
   2. Lawgiver (Hebrew) = The one who sets the institutions or patterns of living
   3. Follow the right lifestyle and you can be completely well
   4. Spiritual lifestyle
      a. Righteousness
      b. Peace
      c. Joy
   5. Physical lifestyle—3 basics of health
      a. Diet
      b. Exercise
      c. Rest
E. The Lord is my King
   1. He gives me orders
   2. I do not make my own decisions

II. The Establishment Of The Kingdom
A. Knowing God’s plan for the future
   1. John 15:15
      a. If you do not know what God is doing—you just obey orders, you are a slave
      b. If you faithfully obey orders, He will promote you to being a friend
      c. As a friend He shares His intentions, purposes and plans
   2. 2 Peter 1:16–19
      a. There will be no change in the way prophecy is fulfilled between the New Testament and the end of this age
      b. If you heed the unfulfilled prophecy you will know for sure that the Lord is coming back
Only The Kingdom Is Unshakable

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I. Simultaneous Climax Of Good And Evil
   1. Wheat and tares grow together until the harvest—the end of the age = setting up of the kingdom
   2. Same climatic conditions that ripen the wheat ripen the tares
B. Isaiah 60:1–3
C. 2 Timothy 3:1–5, 13
   1. Corruption is irreversible
   2. God’s solution is a new creation
   3. Example of the peach
D. Revelation 22:10–12
   1. The unrighteous will become more unrighteous
   2. The righteous will become more righteous
II. Birth Pangs To Be Intense And Worldwide
   A. Isaiah 24:1–6, 17–23
      1. Turmoil, chaos and God’s judgment precedes the setting up of the kingdom
      2. Birth pangs of earth

III. Climax Is To Be Sudden
   B. 1 Thess. 5:1–3

IV. The Kingdom Of God Will Be Imposed By Force
   A. Daniel 2:34–35, 44
   B. Rev. 19:11–16, 19–21

V. The Kingdom Is To Be Established By Judgment
   A. Isaiah 9:7
   B. Joel 3:1–2—Judgment of nations based on how they have treated Israel and her land
   C. Matt. 25:31–34—Acceptance based on how they treated brothers of Jesus

VI. The Kingdom Of God Is Unshakable
   A. Heb. 12:25–29

VII. Pictures Of The Established Kingdom
    A. Zech. 14:8–9
    B. Isaiah 2:2–4
    C. Psalm 72:1–14—Righteousness, peace and justice for the oppressed

VIII. Ministers Of The Established Kingdom
     A. Matt. 24:45–47—Christ’s servants
     C. Isaiah 61:4–6—Restored Israelites

IX. Prepare The Way
    A. Isaiah 40:3

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