

Elpis Israel

for Young People

*The 12 Tribes of Israel
Constitute the Kingdom of God*

Class 38

Where we are at:

The Book Elpis Israel – page 298 – Section “The Twelve Tribes Constituted the Kingdom of God”

- Before we can look at Part 3 of Elpis Israel (p320), “The Kingdoms of the World in Relation to the Kingdom of God” – we need to understand what the kingdom of God is.

The Kingdom = The Truth

Christ was promised to be a King:

Luke 1:31-33 *And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: **and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.***

This was his purpose:

John 18:37 *Pilate therefore said unto him, **Art thou a king then?** Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. **To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world,** that I should bear witness unto **the truth.** Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*

Christ went out preaching about the kingdom of God:

Luke 4:43 *And he said unto them, **I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: **for therefore am I sent.***

He sent the disciples on the same mission:

Luke 9:2 *And **he sent them to preach the kingdom of God,** and to heal the sick.*

This was what they were promised:

Matt 19:27-28 *Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, **in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.***

This is what they were looking for:

Acts 1:6 *When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, **wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?***

This is what they preached after his ascension:

Acts 8:12 *But when they believed Philip preaching **the things concerning the kingdom of God,** and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*

KINGDOM OF GOD = THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL = THE TRUTH

God's Covenant with the Nation of Israel

God made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

- We spent an extensive time looking at that covenant

God also made a covenant with the nation of Israel

- God sets the terms of the covenant – gives them to Moses to take them to Israel
Exodus 19:3-6 *And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, **if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.** These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.*

Elpis Israel p298 *This was an offer on the part of God to become their King, predicated upon what He had done for them. If they closed with the proposal (meaning if they agreed), they would henceforth be a kingdom. Hitherto they had been a crowd of slaves subject to the will of the kings of Egypt. But He proposed to organize them; to give them a constitution, religion, and laws; to appoint them a government; to exalt them by His instructions, to the freedom, independence, and moral excellence, which are attainable only by the influence of divine truth; to make them the envy and admiration of surrounding nations; **to make them, in short, His kingdom, and His beloved nation.** This was a proposal rich with blessings. All God would require of them was obedience, and adhesion to the covenant He had made with their fathers. The terms of the compact were highly eligible. **No nation had received such a liberal and honourable proposal before, or since.** Would they accept it, and abide by it? Moses was sent to see.*

Moses presented the terms of the covenant to Israel – and they had to agree to it.

Exodus 19:7-8 *And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him. And all the people answered together, and said, **All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.** And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.*

Elpis Israel p298 *In this transaction **a formal agreement was entered into between Israel and the Lord.** In the word they sent back by Moses, **they accepted the Lord as their King, and became His subjects, or “the children of His kingdom”.***

Elpis Israel p299 *By this political compact, Abraham's natural seed became "THE KINGDOM OF GOD". It was the first, and the only kingdom, He has ever had among the sons of men. He will yet have other kingdoms. All the kingdoms of the world will become His; and will yet acknowledge the King He has provided to rule over them. But even then, the kingdom founded at the beginning of the ages, the kingdom of Israel, will be His "peculiar treasure above them all". If, then, we would understand "the things of the kingdom of God," we must never lose sight of Israel in connection with the kingdom. Indeed, without them there is no kingdom of God; and to affirm the contrary is to believe in a kingdom of which there is no nation to rule! No misconduct of Israel can dissolve the covenant entered into between them and God. The rebellion of a nation does not do away with the rights of the king. If they set His laws and government at defiance it becomes a question of might. If the rebellion triumph the king is dethroned; but if the rights of the throne prevail, the rebel nation has no alternative but to submit to whatever terms the conqueror may prescribe.*

KINGDOM OF GOD = THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL = THE TRUTH = NATURAL ISRAEL

Reason for Excitement:

- That is why Christadelphians have always been so excited in looking at the return of the Jews to the land and the establishment of the "State of Israel"
- It is the greatest sign we have that the Lord Jesus Christ is about to return... That's what the Apostles taught:

Acts 3:19-21 *Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

"Ahhh, but..." – says the critic

Israel rebelled...

Elpis Israel p299 *No misconduct of Israel can dissolve the covenant entered into between them and God. The rebellion of a nation does not do away with the rights of the king. If they set His laws and government at defiance it becomes a question of might. If the rebellion triumph the king is dethroned; but if the rights of the throne prevail, the rebel nation has no alternative but to submit to whatever terms the conqueror may prescribe.*
This is precisely the state of things between God and Israel. The tribes have rebelled against Him. He has anointed Jesus of Nazareth to be King of the Jews. But they say, No good thing ever came out of Nazareth, and they will not have him for their king. They have no other king, they say, but Cæsar; hence they crucified Jesus, and have served Cæsar ever since.

But has God surrendered His rights? Will He allow Himself to be dethroned by rebels, and His Viceroy to be treated as a malefactor? All who deny the restoration of Israel in effect say, "They have rebelled successfully against God and His Christ". But this cannot be. God will restore them "for His name's sake".

*He will plant them in Canaan; settle them in the land according to their old estates; and place Jesus upon David's throne in triumph: for He has sworn that "at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that he is Lord, to the glory of God the Father", **The great rebellion will then be suppressed; God will have recovered His rights; His kingdom will be re-established; and Israel will thenceforth "obey His voice, and keep His covenant", as they originally agreed to do.***

The generation the covenant was made with

- Were a few days away from entering into the land of Israel and possessing the kingdom
- Yet they all died in the wilderness (except 2) – WHY?

Heb 3:18-19 *And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? **So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.***

The same is required of us – if we want to go in!

- We have to believe what God has said – even though sometimes it seems really difficult
- Even though sometimes it might even seem like the world is coming to an end, the ecclesias are falling apart – everything is going amuck...
- God is able to lead us through the wilderness – and into the kingdom – IF WE BELIEVE!!!!

Hebrews 4:1-2 ***Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.** For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but **the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.***

God will see his covenant through....

- God cannot let his covenant fall – not because of any inherent righteousness of the Nation of Israel – but because of his Holy Names sake
- He will fix the problem:

Ezekiel 36:21-30 *But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; **I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.***

Part 1 – Restoration:

(v24) For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

Part 2 – Cleansing (Elijah Mission)

*(v25) Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. **And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.***

Part 3 – The New Covenant & Kingdom re-established

*And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and **ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.** I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen.*

This was the foundation of the Christadelphian Movement

That is why this book is called “Elpis Israel” – the Hope of Israel

Brother Roberts – Wrote “Christendom Astray”

Lecture 8

THE KINGDOM OF GOD NOT YET IN EXISTENCE, BUT TO BE ESTABLISHED VISIBLY ON THE EARTH AT A FUTURE DAY

*ON NO subject will Christendom be found to have gone more astray than on the subject of the Kingdom of God—a subject which, without exaggeration, may be said to constitute the **very backbone of the divine purpose with the earth and its inhabitants.** What is the Kingdom of God? It is one of the most important questions that can be asked, from a Scriptural point of view: for this reason: whatever the Kingdom of God is, IT WAS THE GREAT SUBJECT-MATTER OF THE GOSPEL PREACHED BY JESUS AND HIS APOSTLES.*

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¹Robert Roberts. (1984; 2002). *Christendom Astray from the Bible* (209). Logos Publications.

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