



ASKING BETTER QUESTIONS -  
GRAND THEMES 9 - KINGDOM I

A thick black L-shaped frame surrounds the text. The top-left corner is a horizontal bar extending to the right, and the bottom-right corner is a vertical bar extending upwards. The text is centered within the open space of the frame.

# WELCOME TO “GRAND THEMES”

Each week we will trace a major theme through the  
whole Bible.

**KINGDOM**



# Theme gallery



<p>TEMPLE</p>	<p>COVENANT</p>	<p>COVENANT</p>	<p>COVENANT</p>	<p>COVENANT</p>	<p>EXODUS</p>

# Theme gallery



L&D



KINGDOM



# King and Kingdom

- A King reigns over a dominion.
- Usually just one King.
- Those who live in this dominion are the king's subjects.
- The character and personality of the king have a big impact on the integrity and peace of the kingdom, internally and externally.
- Key idea: **Dominion** and **Reign**.





# Genesis!



- Genesis 1:26–28 (HCSB): Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth.”
- <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female.
- <sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.”
- What is God setting up here?
- Mankind ruling over the earth.
- And how should we rule?



# Exodus



- Exodus 19:5–8 (HCSB): Now if you will listen to Me and carefully keep My covenant, you will be My own possession out of all the peoples, although all the earth is Mine,<sup>6</sup> and you will be My **kingdom of priests** and My holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to say to the Israelites.”
- What do we learn about “kingdom” here?
- To do with a special quality and function of the people in it.
- Representing his character and presence to the world.



# So you want to be king...



- (Deut 17:14-20) When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, “Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us,” be sure to appoint over you a king the LORD your God chooses.
- He must be from among your fellow Israelites. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not an Israelite.
- The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, “You are not to go back that way again.” He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.
- When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the Levitical priests. It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees and not consider himself better than his fellow Israelites and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel.



## So you want to be king...



- When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the Levitical priests. It is to be with him, and he is to **read it all the days of his life** so that he may **learn to revere** the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees and not consider himself better than his fellow Israelites and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel.
- What's important in a king and why?
- What's important for us?



# The Davidic Kingdom



- 2 Samuel 7:11–13 (HCSB): <sup>11</sup> ever since the day I ordered judges to be over My people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies.
- ‘The Lord declares to you: The Lord Himself will make a house for you. <sup>12</sup> When your time comes and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up after you your descendant, who will come from your body, **and I will establish his kingdom.** <sup>13</sup> He will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- God promising an eternal kingdom through David’s line.

# Psalms



- **Psalm 2:6–8** (HCSB):<sup>6</sup> “I have consecrated **My King** on Zion, My holy mountain.”<sup>7</sup> I will declare the Lord’s decree: He said to Me, “You are My Son; today I have become Your Father.”<sup>8</sup> Ask of Me, and I will make **the nations** Your inheritance and the **ends of the earth** Your possession.
- Messianic King over all nations.
- Ends of the earth...
- Acts 1:8. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, **and to the ends of the earth.**
- Acts 11:47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.
- How does God’s kingdom reach the ends of the earth?
- Through partnership.

# Psalms



- Psalm 145:10–13 (HCSB): All You have made will thank You, Lord; the godly will praise You. <sup>11</sup> They will speak of the glory of Your kingdom and will declare Your might, <sup>12</sup> informing all people of Your mighty acts and of the glorious splendor of Your kingdom. <sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an **everlasting kingdom**; Your **rule** is for **all generations**.
- Everlasting kingdom for all generations

# Checkpoint



- What have we got so far about the concept of “Kingdom”?
- Comprised of people functioning as priests.
- Through David’s line.
- Everlasting/eternal.
- Encompasses all people – not restricted to the Jews only.
- Partnership idea – not just passive subjects.

# Isaiah

- (Isaiah 9:6-7) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.
- And he will be called wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the **greatness of his government** and peace there will be no end.
- He will **reign on David's throne** and over his **kingdom**, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.
- The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.
- Lot's of "kingdom" language.
- What sort of qualities should we expect from God's kingdom that we read about here?
- The "zeal of the Lord". What does God **want**?



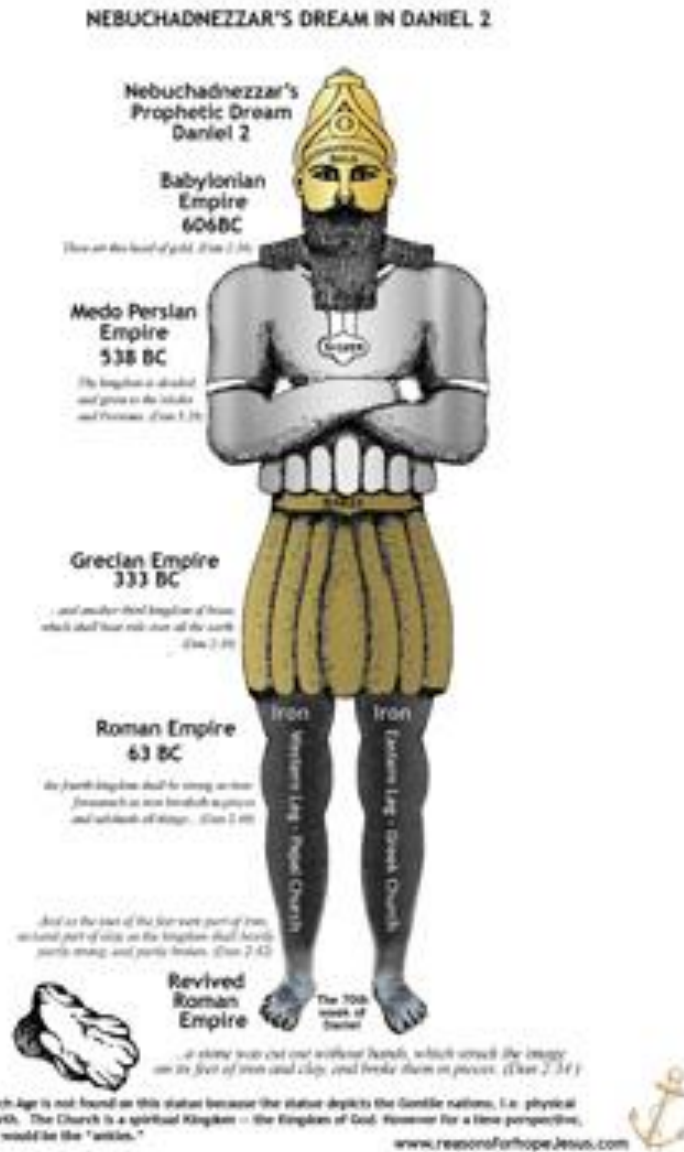


# Prophets - Daniel

Daniel 2:31-35 Your Majesty looked, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. The head of the statue was made of pure **gold**, its chest and arms of **silver**, its belly and thighs of **bronze**, its legs of **iron**, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked **clay**.

While you were watching, a **rock** was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and **smashed** them. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were all broken to pieces and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the **rock** that struck the statue became a **huge mountain and filled the whole earth**.

- **Actual empires in history that were swept away.**
- **“The rock” fills the whole earth. What could it be?**



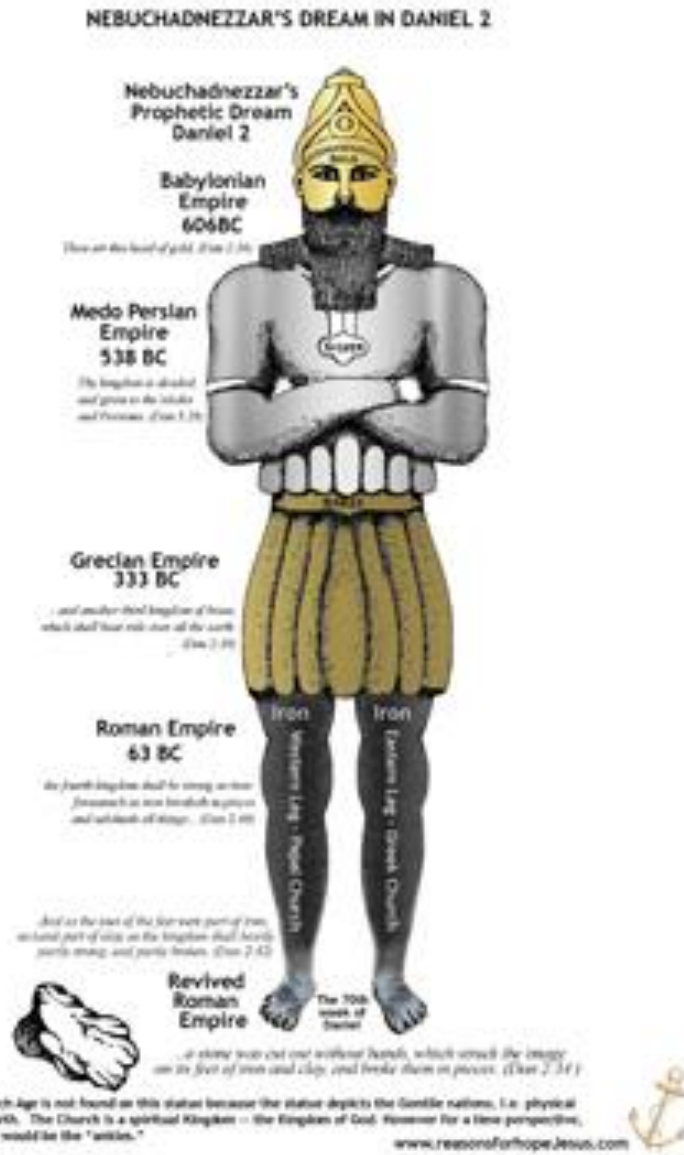




# Prophets - Daniel

## Daniel 2:36-44 Interpretation of the dream

- Head of Gold = Nebuchadnezzar – Babylonian king
- Chest of silver – “inferior to yours” Medo-Persian empire
- Belly and Thighs of Bronze - “Rule over the whole earth” – Greek empire.
- Legs of iron – powerful kingdom – Roman Empire.
- Feet of iron and clay – divided kingdom. Some strength but not unified.
- Rock – eternal kingdom that will never be destroyed.



# Earthly kingdoms



- (Dan 2:46-48) Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. The king said to Daniel, “Surely your God is the **God of gods and the Lord of kings** and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery. ”Then the king placed Daniel in a **high position** and lavished many **gifts** on him. He made him **ruler** over the entire province of Babylon and placed him **in charge of all its wise men**.
- Initially Nebuchadnezzar was very impressed by this.
- Soon, however: (Dan 3:14) Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up?
- Impressed with power and wisdom, but no **actual** heart humility and service to God.
- (Rev 17:14) They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is **Lord of lords and King of kings** —and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.



# Reflection



- What you have you learnt about “Kingdom”.
- What sort of things would you expect in God’s Kingdom?
- If I am to be part of the Kingdom of God, what is important in my life in how to live?

Next time...



# Kingdom II