

<p>God's Kingdom in Prophecy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The church is comprised of those who have been called out of the world of sin by the gospel message (II Thess. 2:13-14; I Pet. 2:9). Said individuals have been forgiven of their sins (Eph. 1:7) and thereby bought by the blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28; I Pet. 1:18-19). These blood bought forgiven people comprise the kingdom of God and are His priests (Rev. 5:9-10). • God's kingdom was foretold of in the Old Testament (II Sam. 7:12-17; Isa. 9:6-7; Dan. 2:28, 44; 7:27). 	<h1 style="margin: 0;">The Church of Christ in Prophecy</h1>	<p>The OT prophesied of a King over God's Kingdom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The coming Messiah (savior / king) was to rule on the throne of David (II Sam. 7:12-17; Isa. 9:6-7; Ps. 16:8ff / Matt. 1:1; 21:9; Lk. 1:30-33; Acts 2:29-33; 13:22-23). • The kingdom of God belongs to Jesus (Col. 1:13) and he reigns as king (Zech. 9:9 comp. to Matt. 21:4-5; Jn. 18:36-37). • Daniel referred to the king of the kingdom as the "<i>son of man</i>" (cf. Dan. 7:13-14 comp. to Matt. 8:20).
<p>The Old Testament gave details as to when God's Kingdom would be Established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OT writers prophesied that God's kingdom would be established in the "<i>latter days</i>" (cf. Isa. 2:2-3; Dan. 2:28). • Daniel tells us that it would be established during the days of the Roman Empire (Dan. 2:43-45; 11:38-40). • God's kingdom would be represented by a new law that would go forth from Jerusalem (Isa. 2:2ff; Lk. 24:46-49). This law would take precedence over the Mosaic Law (Dan. 9:27-31). This new covenant law would instruct men to obey so that they may be forgiven of sins and imbibe of God's promises foretold of old (Jer. 31:31-34). • The kingdom of God was to be established at Jerusalem (Isa. 2:2-3). • Jesus said that the kingdom of God would be established with power (Mk. 9:1; Luke 24:49). 		
<p>The NEW Testament gave details as to when God's Kingdom WAS Established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The "<i>latter days</i>" of Isaiah and Daniel prove to be the day of Pentecost (cf. Acts 2:16-17; 3:24). • The Roman Empire was in power during the time of the Acts 2:38 Pentecost (cf. Lk. 3:1-2; Acts 18:1-2). While Jesus was alive, He preached about the nearness of the kingdom of God (cf. Matt. 4:17). Jesus told his disciples to pray for the kingdom's appearance (Matt. 6:9). Jesus taught his disciples to preach that the kingdom of God was at hand (Matt. 10:5-7). Jesus even said that many of the generation that was hearing him preach would not die until the kingdom of God came (Matt. 16:28; Mk. 9:1). • The "law" of repentance and the forgiveness of sins was preached by Peter on the day of Pentecost from Jerusalem (Acts 2:5, 21, 37-39). Those who obey the law of Christ (gospel message) shall be forgiven of sins, added to the Lord's church, and have a hope of eternal glory in heaven (Acts 2:41; Rom. 6:16ff). • The kingdom of God was established on the day of Pentecost with power (comp. Lk. 24:49 with Acts 2:1-4). 		
<p>Has the Kingdom of God been Established?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have noted that the OT prophecies regarding the kingdom of God have been fulfilled in the NT. We have also noted that the church is the kingdom of God (Matt. 16:16-18; Rev. 5:9-10). • YES, the church has already been established. All prophecy and fulfillment passages point to the day of Pentecost (fifty days after Christ was crucified) as recorded in Acts 2. • Note before Acts 2 the church was spoken of as something that was soon to come (Matt. 16:16-18; Mk. 9:1; etc.) and after Acts 2 the church is spoken of as having already existed (Acts 5:11; 8:1; etc.). • Again, note that on the day of Pentecost 3,000 souls obeyed Peter's instructions and were added to the 12 who were preaching at that time (i.e., they comprised the church). The church then grew to 5,000 (cf. Acts 4:4). 		
<p>Benefits bestowed upon God's people in His Kingdom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People in the kingdom of God (the church) would have their sins forgiven (Isa. 53:10-11; Jer. 31:34; Acts 13:38-39). • Under a new law (government) (Isa. 2:3; 9:6-7; Jer. 31:31ff). • A kingdom for ALL nations who would hear God's call and call upon the name of Jehovah (Isa. 2:2; 11:10; Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21). • Citizens of God's kingdom will all be His priests (Ex. 19:6; Isa. 61:6-9). 		