

7th Grade New Testament (Gospels)

Lesson Plan: The Kingdom of God (When is it?)

Learning Goals: Students should recognize the already/not yet nature of the Kingdom of God as evidenced in the ministry of Jesus.

Question: When will the kingdom of God get here?

Prayer.

Review:

- definition of the Kingdom of God
- Examples of the political nature of the kingdom

Discuss question on board. (5 minutes)

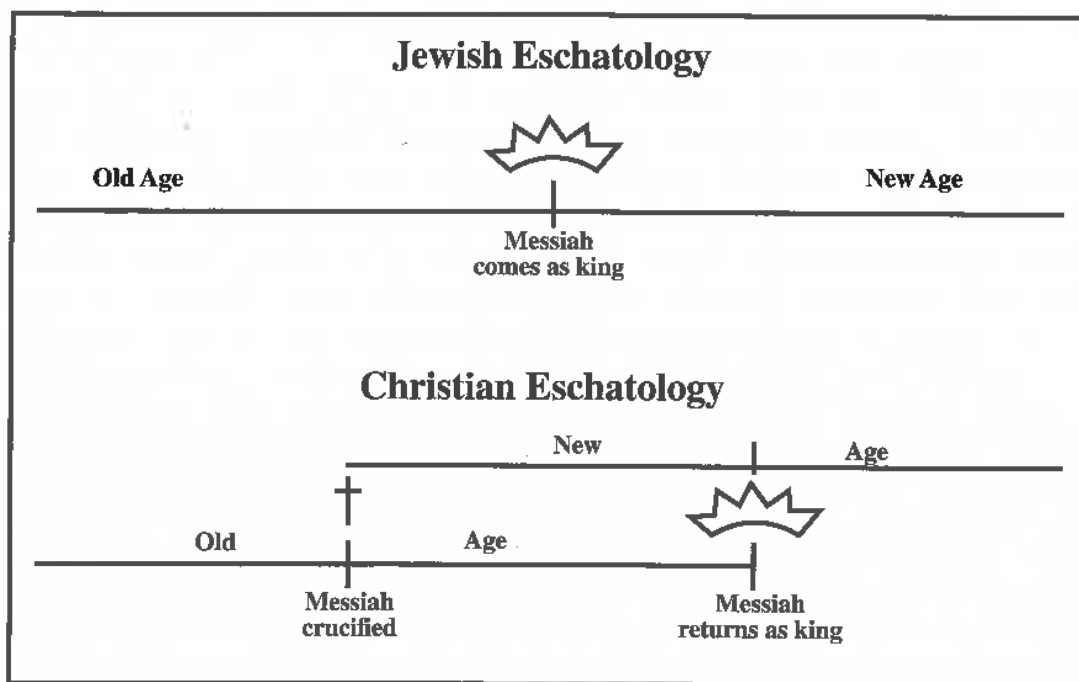


Diagram (Blomberg, p. 449)

"Already / Not Yet"

- The kingdom is here, but not in its fullness and not yet complete.
- The kingdom is in the future and it is present.
- We should expect much power - the kingdom has arrived!
- We should not expect complete and total healing yet.
- Already (Matthew 12:28-29); Not Yet (Matt. 25:31-34)
- Some analogies:
 - Engagement and Marriage
 - Pregnancy and Parenthood
 - Completion and Graduation

Benefits Christ brings in the kingdom NOW:

- Forgiveness of sins through his own blood sacrifice
- Restored relationship with the father
- Banished the sacrificial system
- Clearly and more defined ethical standards to live by as His disciples
- Fullness of revelation (Scripture completed)
- Assurance of victory over sin, Satan, and death
- Establishment of the Church (Bride of Christ)
- Freedom of prayer
- Indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives (comfort, conscience, conviction, highlight truth)

What do we still have to look forward to? (Not yet)

- End of death, pain, suffering, sickness, and tears
- End of evil
- Restoration and redemption of all creation (people and environment)
- Every knee will bow and every tongue confess Jesus is Lord
- Full of reign of Christ
- Full peace, joy, and love

Lesson Summary /Review:

Students should review and highlight the following vocabulary terms and concepts from this lesson in their notes:

- Explain the “already/not yet” nature of the kingdom.