

The Kingdom of God - What will it be Like?

None of us needs reminding about the evil condition of this world. There is no obscurity or difficulty in understanding that **human nature** is its **root cause**. Mankind, at the apex of God's creation seemed to hold out such great promise. But the unrestrained expression of his innermost nature has brought the ceaseless turmoil among the nations.

- **National pride** engenders scorn, contempt and disparagement of others. We need not detail the resulting immense expenditure of wealth on national armed forces. These in turn have brought **continuous warfare**, bringing injury and death throughout all human history.

Moral corruption enriches criminal gangsters at the expense of their countless victims. The **perversion of integrity** in the business world and in public officialdom is a leading cause of public destitution - which can be the majority of the population among the dictatorships. But even among the wealthiest democracies are countries where 1/3 of the population barely survives financially while paying rent to wealthy landowners, whether corporate or personal.

- The **return of Jesus Christ** will be the era of "**facing the consequences**" among all nations. At that time the perpetrators of these evils will be **fully exposed**, pronounced guilty, and removed from any further power to practise their evil. Also, the public will come to a full realization how much they have **been lead astray** by both false religion and atheistic philosophy, e.g., the spontaneous generation and "evolution" of life.

The system of education will be taken over by "*the saints of the Most High*" who "*shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever*" - **Daniel 7:18**. The public, having seen the deception of their former educators, will gladly proclaim, "*Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; he will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.*" For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem" - **Isaiah 2:3**.

- Some have questioned how a loving Creator could permit those former evil conditions to continue for such a long time, as if He had paid no attention to what was happening. But God is in control of his own creation, and has declared His purpose with it: "*All the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD*" - **Numbers 14:21**, also. "*All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name*" - **Psalms 86:9**.

The development of human society through the ages has been under His control in order to reach that goal - "*From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live*" - **Acts 17:26**.

- Much has been accomplished already. The extreme savagery of mankind seen in pre-flood times is no longer universal - **Genesis 6:11**. Neither is paganism, which has been greatly reduced by education. In the meanwhile Providence has been at work, further providing the conditions for preparing, through the ages, the people who will rule in His kingdom - **Acts 15:14**.

It is these who will say to Jesus at his return, "*you have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth*" - **Revelation 5:10**. Even during the thousand year reign of Jesus, human nature will still stand as a great barrier to the final purpose of God with this earth. So that time will be an ongoing contest in which he who "*keeps My works until the end, I will give power over the nations*" - 27 '*He shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the potter's vessels shall be broken to pieces*' - as I also have received from My Father" - **Revelation 2:26; Psalm 2**.