

Life-Study of 1 and 2 Kings Summaries - Messages 22-23

The way in which these forty-one kings had their being, how they behaved, lived, moved, and acted in their daily living, activities, and careers, paints a full picture of how the elect of God could partake of the God-promised and God-given good land and enjoy all its rights that they could become God's kingdom on the earth usurped by His enemy Satan. This typifies and signifies [how we can partake of the all-inclusive Christ as the portion ordained by God for us and enjoy all the rights in Christ](#) assigned to us by God that we, the people chosen and redeemed by God, can become God's kingdom in Christ and with Christ on the earth usurped by the evil one, God's enemy Satan.

The **root of the evil** of the evil kings, like that of the evil of the people of Israel, was **their forsaking the very God as the fountain of living waters and their turning away to the pagan idols as broken cisterns that hold no water** (Jer. 2:13). These two evils drowned them in the death waters of idolatry, of the indulgence of lusts, and of injustice in shedding the blood of the innocent. Their evils offended their God to such an extent that He would not turn His anger from them but cast them off, first into the hands of the Assyrians and then into the hands of the Babylonians, who destroyed and burned the holy temple and the holy city, carried away into captivity the holy people to a pagan land of idol worship, and desolated the holy land for seventy years. Thus, they, as God's elect, **lost the enjoyment of the God-given good land** and, instead of remaining the citizens of God's kingdom in the holy land, they became **captives in a heathen land**.

A SERIOUS WARNING

The tragic result of such a pitiful history of the kings among God's chosen and blessed elect should be a serious warning to us, God's elect in the New Testament age, and should indicate to us how sober we should be to take heed to the particular points of each case. **Just to be** one who is according to God's heart, like David, and **just to be** partly right and good in the eyes of God, like some honest Christians, **do not qualify us** to partake of Christ in full and to enjoy all the rights in Him that we may become adequately the church as the Body of Christ and as the kingdom of God and of Christ. [Conformity to Christ's death by the power of His resurrection is required of us](#), the New Testament overcomers, that we [may die to ourselves, our natural man, and live to God in resurrection](#). A life of [living Christ, magnifying Christ](#), and [moving and acting with Christ](#) by the bountiful supply of the all-inclusive, life-giving Spirit, [doing everything in and according to the Spirit](#), is indispensable for us, God's New Testament seekers, to be **winners** in the racecourse of the divine life that we may fully enjoy Christ as the God-given good land in the church age and be gloriously rewarded to partake of Christ, in the fullest sense, in the kingdom age.

To be a **king** among God's people is to be the [deputy authority of God on the earth](#). The deputy authority of God on the earth is composed of [God's oracle](#), the speaking of God, and [God's authority](#), the ruling of God. Both items were entrusted to the priesthood, as in Moses, who was represented by Aaron the high priest. When the Aaronic priesthood started to wane, God raised up Samuel to speak for Him as a prophet, and Samuel brought in the kingship for God's authority. The kingship among all the kings of Israel was always regulated by the prophets, such as David by Nathan (2 Sam. 12), Ahab by Elijah (1 Kings 18), and Jehoram by Elisha (2 Kings 3), and was strengthened by the prophets, such as Hezekiah by Isaiah (2 Kings 18–20) and other kings by Jeremiah (Jer. 1:1-3). After the captivity of Israel due to the kings' failures, it was through the prophet Daniel's prayer that the captivity was returned (Dan. 6:10; 9:15-25).

The [kings should always go along with God's oracle](#), that is, go along with the priests. Then God's deputy authority will be maintained on earth by the priests speaking as His oracle and by the kings ruling as His authority in His kingdom. These are basic principles for our knowing the Old Testament. (*Life-Study of 1 and 2 Kings – Messages 22-23*).