The Kingdom of God - What will it be Like? – 3

When the kingdom is established, **the work** of the newly immortal believers will be to come into a **close** and regular contact with the mortals. This will be in order to bring them up to a **God-centred** manner of life - to "love the Lord their God with all their heart, with all their soul, with all their mind, and with all their strength." Their efforts will also be towards training them in the discipline of developing their moral and intellectual powers to "love your neighbor as yourself."

• The effect, by **the end of the Thousand Years**, will be to produce a great harvest of mankind, converted in heart and mind to **joyfully serve God** in the now-hidden times which will follow, "when **all things** are **made subject** to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all" - **1 Corinthians 15:28**.

But even with such close attention, **human nature** with its self-will and rebellious spirit will all too often **resist** the firm and righteous control of the saints who will govern them. Particularly at the beginning they will have a **challenging task** to teach and maintain God's new law. It will require **constant vigilance** to keep peace and order in the face of national, tribal and personal **pride**, which will naturally resist the new **laws of God**.

• Since this control must be applied among all nations, an **extensive administration** will be required, which will be located **in Jerusalem**, the capital city. God has been preparing for this arrangement ever since He placed mankind eastward in Eden. He has **made known His plan** and purpose, yet very few of this world's population knows anything about it.

Most know nothing of **the plans** which God has left **on record** for his servants to freely read in the books of His **prophets**. So mankind will be dumbfounded when the weak little **nation of Israel** becomes the centre of power over all nations.

God has already identified the land, the city, the king, the government, and the people. Isaiah gives a detailed picture of this being accomplished. Events will be triggered when "the enemy" (of Israel) "comes in like a flood" (mounts an invasion), "the Spirit of the LORD" not the current, mortal-led Israeli army) "will lift up a standard against him" - Isaiah 59:19.

Then **Isaiah 60** announces, "Arise, shine; For your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you" - in other words Messiah = Christ has now made his appearance to natural Israel. Up to that point, the state of Israel has been governed by **imperfect mortals**, blemished by sin - "For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people," but Messiah will bring with him truth, justice and righteousness to that land - "but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you."

• The presence of Christ and his newly immortalized brethren will be so electrifying, that the surrounding nations will quickly be affected - "The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising" - v.3.

This will also arrest the attention of **every natural Israelite** who remains among the diaspora, and their eyes will be lifted Zionwards. Nations **friendly to Israel** will donate the use of **their airlines** to deliver them to their desired destination in the Holy Land - **8** "Who are these who **fly like a cloud**, and like doves to their roosts? **9** Surely **the coastlands shall wait for Me**; and the **ships of Tarshish** will come first, to **bring your sons from afar**, their silver and their gold with them, to the name of the LORD your God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because **He has glorified you**." More next time, God willing.