

Ruling On The New Earth

A. Only way we will enter into heaven is through justification by faith in Jesus Christ our savior & Lord from law of sin. Hallelujah we will be free from sin and death in heaven & will worship Jesus in total freedom and joy.

B. What Does God's Eternal Kingdom Involve?

1. Describe Kingdom

a. King not only rules people but includes territory, government, & culture

b. Jesus "My kingdom is not of this world"

i. Important to distinguish between what's worldly & what's earthly & physical

1. God's creation earthly because He created man in His own image

2. Sin dominates fallen humanity, this is worldly

a. Rom 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you brothers and sisters in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will."

b. Flesh under Sin principle Rom 7:5 "For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passion aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore the fruit for death."

- c. Jesus king new earth slain & shed blood purchased men for God
 - i. “You have made them to be a kingdom & priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth” Rev. 5:10
 - ii. God’s unaltered plan that people exercise dominion over the new earth
- d. Essential component kingdom land
 - i. Men will own property, He will have dominion & rule over it but must under God
 - ii. Earth belongs God & his people
 - 1. “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it” Ps 24:1
 - 2. Meek shall inherit the earth
 - 3. God delights & entrust men rule earth
- e. Knowledge inheritance New Earth gives hope & purpose in our pain & suffering
- f. God’s goal restore entire created cosmos & bring under His dominion & rule
- g. God’s explicitly stated His plan: “... to bring all things in heaven & earth together under one head, even Christ.” Eph 1:10
- h. “The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever” Rev. 11:15
 - i. Christ not destroy or replace world’s kingdom but cleanse, redeem & resurrect it into eternal kingdom.

B. Will we actually rule with Christ?

- 1. God create Adam & Eve king & queen
 - a. Rule earth
- 2. Christ second Adam
 - a. Church beloved bride & co-ruler will accomplish what entrusted Adam & Eve old earth

- b. God's Saints fulfill assignment Adam & Eve failed old Earth
 - i. Saints reign in New Earth "They will reign for ever & ever" Rev. 22:5.
 - ii. Ish. 65:17-18 says: "Behold I am creating new heavens and a new earth; and the former things [of life] will not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever over what I created ... "
- c. Christ sets up new kingdom forever replacing human kingdom where mankind rules righteousness, authority, glory & sovereign: all people & nations

C. Why are we surprised that we'll rule the earth?

- 1. People surprised reign in eternity over land, cities, nations
 - a. I was skeptical as many people are
 - b. 1Cor 6:2-3 "Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?...Do you not know that we will judge angels?"i
 - c. Crowns means ruling authority & rewards
 - i. Rev. 2:10 "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."
 - ii. Rev. 2:6 "To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations."
 - iii. Rev. 5:10 "You have made them to be a kingdom (kings) and priests to serve our God and they will reign on earth"
- 2. God's original plan was to have human beings rule everything on earth

D. Our inheritance: Owning & Ruling the land

- 1. Earthly Father dies leaving an inheritance child become heirs land
- 2. Because we are God's children we are also heirs kingdom & rule over the earth

3. Jesus said, "I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Lk 22:29-30
4. Inheritance is not only physical but eternal as well

E. Every citizen heaven appointed role, one that fulfills him or her needs & contributes whole. Rule people, angels & God may create new beings us rule over.

1. I thought retired & have no responsibility heaven
2. Ruling involves responsibility
 - a. Image responsibility, service, & leadership being pure joy

F. God's plan develop apprentices Jesus so we can participate ongoing creativity universe

1. God grooming us leaders in heaven
2. New Earth enhanced wisdom, skill, appreciation, & joy

G. How will we rule God's kingdom?

1. God promises us "an inheritance that will never perish, spoil or fade." 1 Pet. 1:4 Inheritance is heaven & its pleasures
 - a. But his heirs given power - positions authority in eternal Kingdom
 - b. New Earth not blissful as vacation rather realm joyfully rule w/ Jesus, exercising dominion God's image-bearers
 - c. Suffering purifies us. Share in Jesus suffering
 - i. Rom. 8:16-17 "The Spirit himself testifies of our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we might share in his glory"
 - ii. Co-rulers Christ, share glory sovereign ruler himself

2. Why did God create mankind & earth?

- a. Earth exists same reason mankind & everything else: glorify God
- b. God is glorified when we take rightful place in his creation & rule or have dominion over all earth
- c. Man is created to possess heaven make inventions & discoveries, explore sciences, create arts, refinement & ennobling, & advancing the human mind, all God's will
- d. Royal human race will have possession earth
- e. God's purpose mankind is reign, expand & do culture-enriching activities on earth
- f. God's plans were interrupted but Satan nor sin can thwart God's purpose.
- g. Christ's redemptive work ultimately restore, enhance & expand God's original plan
- h. God will not bring end earth but end temporary rebellion
- i. God transform Earth into realm unsurpassed magnificence

3. God's kingdom...& ours Dan 7:18 "But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever - yes ,for ever and ever."

- a. Heaven is the eternal home Divine & redeemed man
 - i. Man & all the redeemed members of the human race, must necessarily be thoroughly human in its structure, condition & activities
 - ii. Joy & activities must all be rational, moral, voluntary, & active. Must exercise all faculties, gratification all tastes, development all talented capacities, realizations all ideas

1. A. A. Hodge

- b. God never abandon original plan righteous human being inhabit & rule earth Dan. 7:18 "But the holy people of the Most High will receive the kingdom and possess it forever - yes for ever and ever."

4. Saints rule God's eternal kingdom New Earth

- a. God's children who suffered under ungodly earthly kings will forever take place earthly kings
- b. Cultural achievements ungodly nations be handed over God's people manage (Alcorn assumes) develop & expand

5. God's Government will be ever expanding

- a. "Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end" Ish. 9:7
- b. Key word in this verse is "increase"
- c. Hebrew word increase or expansion
- d. Christ's government New Earth & universe ever expanding
- e. Two way government increase
 - i. Expanding into ungoverned territories
 - ii. Creating new territories & new worlds

6. Service receive Rewards

- a. Paul stated eternal rewards are available all
- b. "not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing." 2 Tim 4:8
- c. "The Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free." Eph. 6:8.
- D. God will reward us for ruling his Kingdom
 - I. Matt 5:12 "Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven," Amen