THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

The nature of the Kingdom of Chist was not understood by the Jews while Christ was with them on earth, They expected an earthly king such as ruled over them in the days of David and Solomon, which kingdom was taken from them years before, for their disobedience, and worshipping of idols.--And many today also are looking for Christ to come and set up His kingdom on earth, as the Jews of two thousand years ago.

But in studying this kingdom from the things spoken by the prophets, and their fulfillment mentioned by Christ Himself and the apostles who were His witnesses of the ~~it~~ the things which He taught and did both in Jerusalem and in the land of the Jews, we are ~~not~~ convinced that the Jews and the people of today do not realize the nature of His Kingdom.

First we will notice some of the peculiarities of His Kingdom. Jn.18,36 Jesus being tried before Pilate, Verse 33 Pilate asked Him, Art thou the King of the Jews? 36 My kingdom is not of this world, else would my servants fight, but now is My kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto Him, Art thou then a king? Jesus answered, Thou sayest it, to this end was I born, and for this purpose came I into the world.--My Kingdom is not of this world. Ro,14,17 For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost. Then again in Lu.17,20 And when He was demanded of the Pharisees when the Kingdom of God should come, He answered themand said, The Kingdom of God cometh not by observation: neither shall they say Lo! here or Lo there, for the Kingdom of is within you. Col.3,15 And Let the Peace of God rule in your hearts, 1 Tim.6,12 Fight the good fight of faith. Eph.6,12 Put on the whole armour of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for we wrestle not against flesh and blood. but against princapalities. against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places-So we understand that Satan is our enemy, and we are to prepare ourselves to withstand him as we read in 1 Pe.5,8&9 Be sober be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour, Whom resist steadfast in the faith.-Using the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God mentioned in Eph.6,12 to 17.--A Spiritual Kingdom, A Spiritual King, God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and truth--And it takes a Spiritual birth to get into this Kingdom, as Jesus spoke to Nicodemas, Jn.3,5 Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

Christ a Descendant of Judah

The Kingdom in prophecy.

Gen.49 Relates Joseph fore telling the future of his twelve sons, came to Judah Verse 10, The scepter shall not depart from Judah nor a lawgiver from between his feet until Shiloh come, Dan.2,44 Daniel fore tells of the God of Heaven shall set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, and in the 7th chapter verse 13 I saw in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of man came, with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory and a kingdom, that all people and nations and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall notpass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. Isiah 7,14 Therefore the Lord shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel, Isiah 9,6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His name shall be called wonderful, counseller The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace, These Prophesies spoken by Isaih were Fulfilled at the birth of Christ. Mt. Chapters one and two Also Lu. One and two. Lu.1,33 And He shall rule over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end. The wise men came from the east and enquired Where is He that is Born King of the Jews.

Mk.1,14 records the beginning of Christ's ministry, Now after that ~~after~~ John (the Baptist) was put in Prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand. Lu.16,16 The Law and the Prophets were until John, since that time the Kingdom of God is preached and all men ~~pr~~ press into it. Mt.3,1-2 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in wilderness of Judea saying, Repent ye: for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand And Christ began teaching the things concerning the Kingdom, by the different parables which He taught, and the disciples asked Him Mk.4,33 Why speakest thou to them in Parables?-He answered, Because it is given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom, but unto them it is not given Mt.3,1&2 In those days came John the baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea. And saying, Repent ye: for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand Christ also when He began His ministry Mt.4,17 began to preach, and to say, Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand, Mt.10,5 after He had chosen the twelve and named them apostles, Commanded them to preach that the Kingdom of heaven is at hand, Later chose seventy more with the same command. Mk.9,1 And He said unto them. Verily I say unto you, There be some of them that stand here, which shall not see death, till they have seen the Kingdom of God come with power. Continued on page 2.

Mt.16,28 Verily I say unto you,There be some standing here ,which shall not taste death,till they see the Son of man coming in His kingd dom. Then just before He ascended,He appeared unto His disciples and said,All power is given unto me in heaven and earth,Goye therefore and t teach all nations,Baptizing them in the name of the Father,the Son,and of the Holy Ghost:teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.--Here we have the facts stated that the Kingdom is at h hand,that there some here that shall not taste death till the Kingdom co comes with power,Then Christ makes the statement that all power is given Him both in heaven and earth. Now let us examine some evidence of the Kingdom being in existence.

Ac.2,36 Peter revealing to the Jews that they had crucified the Son of God-Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly,that God hath made that same Jesus,whom ye crucified,both Lord and Christ.also Ac.5,30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom ye slew and hanged o on a tree.Him hath God exalted with His right hand,to be a prince and saviour.--A prince is in high rank of authority.--The apostles preached the things concerning the Kingdom,Ac.8,12 But when they believed Phil-ip preaching the things concerning the Kingdom of God,and the name of Jesus Christ,they were baptized both men and women.Paul in Ac.13,8 And he went into the synagogue,and spake boldly for the space of three m months,disputing and persuading the things concerning the Kingdom of God.--Ac.17,7 Jason and others were accused of speaking against Caesar "Saying there is another King,one Jesus,--Re.1,9 John speaks of himself as being in the Kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ--Col.4,11 Paul mentions those who were fellow workers in the ,or unto the Kingdom of ~~G~~ God.--1 Tim.1,17 Now unto the King eternal,immortal,invisible,the only wise God,be glory and honor,forever andever Amen.--1 Tim.6,15 Paul charged Timothy,That thou keep this commandment without spot,unrebukeabl able,until the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ,Who shall in His times shall shew who is the blessed and only potentate,King of Kings ,and Lord of Lords.--Re.17,14 Afte mentioning Christs enemies,These shall ~~m~~k make war with the ~~L~~amb,and the Lamb shall overcome them,for He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings.--Re.19,16 Describing Christ in battle with His enemies,He hath on His vesture and on His thigh written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.--1 Ths.2,12 Paul admonishes,That ye wal walk worthy of God,who hath called you unto His Kingdom and glory. While Col.1,13 --Giving thanks unto the Father--Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath ~~t~~ translated us into THE KINGDOM OF HIS DEAR SON. Heb.12,28 Wherefore we receiveing a Kingdom which cannot be moved,Let us have grace whereby we may serve Him with reverance and Godly fear.

Jesus said to the apostles,Ye are they who have continued with me in my temptations,and I appoint unto you a Kingdom,as my Father hath appointed unto me,that ye may eat at my ~~t~~able in my Kingdom,and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel Lu.28-30.--Then again Mt.16,19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom,and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven and whatsoever th thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven--And the apostles revealed the things pertaining to the kingdom,the way to enter the Kingd dom,also the way to serve God acceptably withreverance and Godly fear.

HOW DOES A PERSON BECOME A CITIZEN OF THE KINGDOM?

We all know that a person born of any who are not citizens of the United States are required to do certain things to become a citizen of this country.So it is with any one wishing to become a citizen of the Kingdom of God.There are certain requirements to be met,or complied with Jn.3,5 Jesus said to Nicodemas,Verily,verily,I say unto thee,except a man be born of water and of the Spirit,he cannot enter ieto the Kingdom of God.Becoming a citizen of the Kingdom and a member of the Church, are equal terms,that which will make us a member of one makes a member of the other as the two arethe same.Therefore to be born of water and the Spirit,is to come out of the water of Baptism in obedience to the Spirit,as Jesus says,It is the Spirit that Quickeneth,The words that I s speak unto you,they are Spirit and they are Life.-The Spirit is the word and Jas.1,18 Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth.And Paul tells the Corinthians that He had begotten them through the gospel. Then Peter says we are born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible,by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever.

The apostles Preached the Gospel as they were commanded by Christ Mk.16, 15& 16,and the ones who heard,believed and repented and was baptized wer were saved.As those mentioned In Acts 2,38 who had asked the apostles what they must do,Then Peter said unto them,Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.--then in verse41 They that gladly received his word were baptized:and the same day there was added unto them about three thousand souls.Verse 47 And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved--Why can't we be saved as they we were?-By obeying the Gospel-By being baptized for the remission of sins. By arising and being baptized and wash away our sins,as per Ac.22,16.

More could be said-- J.H.Lackey *Church of Christ*