

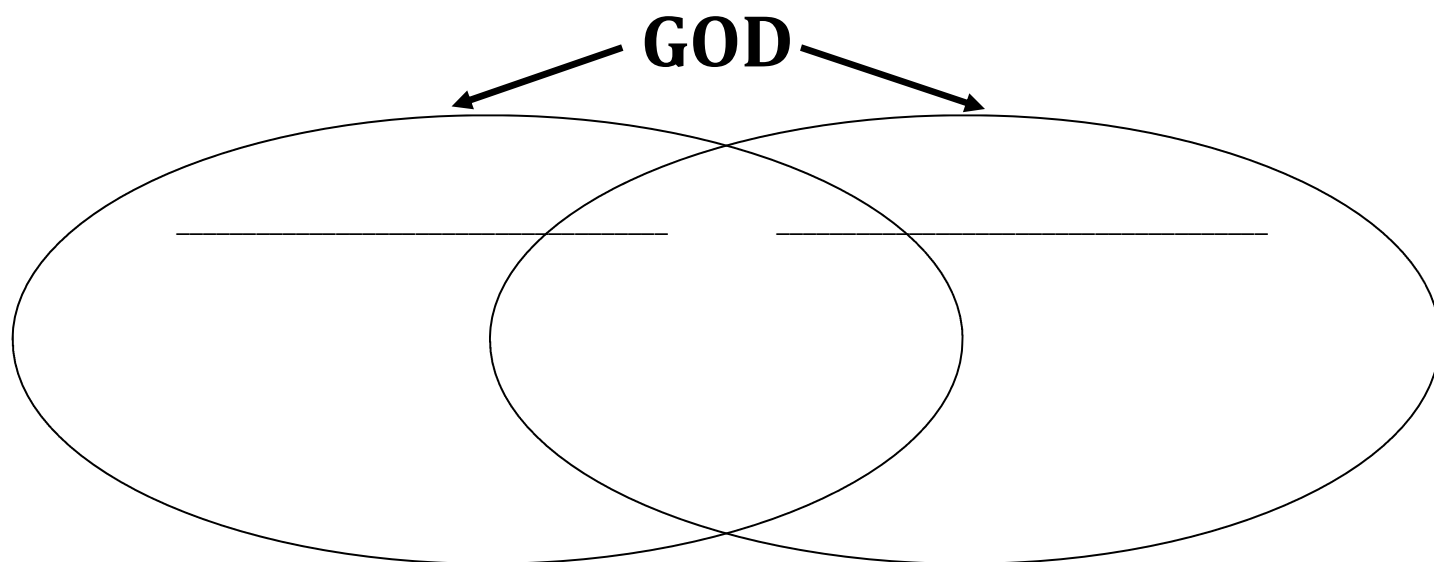
The Biblical Metanarrative:

"Knowing the story we are all a part of."

PART 10: GOD'S PROMISED RESCUE

A TALE OF TWO KINGDOMS

God is by definition the King of creation. He is the maker, ruler, and sustainer of all that is. However, in His wisdom and grace God has delegated some of His kingly authority to created beings.



Spiritual Reality

At some point in eternity past, God created the spiritual world. He then created _____ beings to serve Him and to help administer His rule in the spiritual realm of reality.

Physical Reality

God then created the physical universe. He created man in His _____ & _____ and delegated to him the authority to steward and rule over the physical world.

A Counterfeit Kingdom

At some point either before or just after the creation of the physical world, one of the angelic beings began a rebellion against God.

Satan — “_____”

- Many biblical scholars see the fall of Satan depicted in two Old Testament passages that describe the kings of Babylon and Tyre (Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28:12-18)
- Because Satan is a created being, he cannot create subjects for his kingdom.
- God, in His grace, has built freedom into creation. Satan abused his own freedom to rebel against God and he also enticed others to join him.

⇒ Other angelic beings

⇒ Humanity (Genesis 3:1-7)

God could have simply destroyed this Counterfeit Kingdom and its rebel subjects, but in His grace He allowed mankind to endure and even promised in Genesis 3:15 that He would send a rescuer who would defeat Satan. Implicit within that defeat would be the destruction of Satan's kingdom.

CONTINUAL CONFLICT

The original promise of rescue in Gen. 3:15 was that the seed (singular) of the woman would come and would deal Satan a crushing, death blow. As Satan worked to continue to build his Counterfeit Kingdom, he and his servants were constantly attempting to thwart God's plans and promises.

➡ When God made His great promises to Abraham and it became clear that the rescuer would come specifically through the nation of Israel, Satan began a program of attempting to destroy the nation.

- If the nation was destroyed, the Rescuer could not come into the world.

Despite all of Satan's attempts to destroy the people, God had made great promises to them. In the midst of their exile and dispersal, God sent them prophets who proclaimed the coming of a Promised King and Kingdom.

- This coming King and His Kingdom would be a major problem for Satan. In fact, they would mean the end of his Counterfeit Kingdom.
- Because Satan is referred to in scripture as the Prince of the Power of the Air (Eph. 2:1-2), The god of this Age (2 Cor. 4:4), and The Ruler of this World (John 12:31-32), we can attribute the World System...it's values, politics, morality, conflicts in varying degrees to his influence.

➡ *The promised, Messianic rule of Jesus on earth would bring all of this to an end.*

King Jesus: Matthew 1-12

- Even from the beginning of Jesus' earthly life, Satan worked to destroy Him. (Matt. 2:1-18)
- When Jesus' earthly ministry began, Satan sought to bring Jesus into his Counterfeit Kingdom by abandoning His ministry before it even started. (Matt. 4:1-11)

The King Rejected: Matthew 12:22-42

- After Jesus had clearly demonstrated to the people that He was the Promised King and that He was offering the Promised Kingdom, Satan worked to get the people to reject Jesus.
- They did this, ironically, by attributing the work of Jesus to the work of Satan.

With the Promised King rejected by His people, had the plan of God failed? If the Counterfeit Kingdom wasn't going to be directly assaulted and destroyed by an overt, earthly Kingdom, how was God planning to defeat His adversary?

Jesus' Church: Matthew 16:13-20

Following the arrest and murder of John the Baptist, Jesus and His disciples traveled to the city of Caesarea Philippi. With this city of paganism, idol worship, and rampant immorality as the backdrop, Jesus announced His plans for the assault on the Counterfeit Kingdom of Satan.

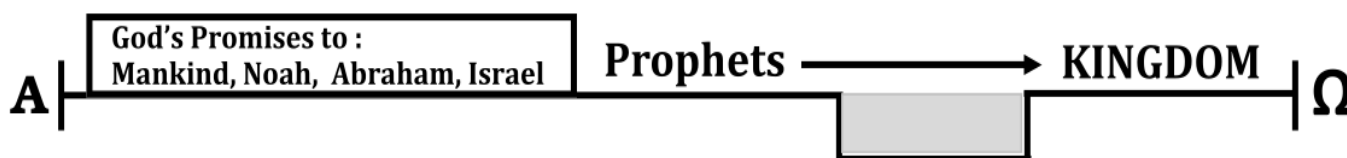
“I will build *my church* and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

“Church”— *Ekklesia*... “The _____ ones.”

- These followers will be His followers and disciples. He will be the one who equips and trains them for His purposes.
- The Church will be God’s chosen instrument in the continued war against Satan’s Counterfeit Kingdom.

Some considerations regarding Jesus’ Church:

1. Jesus’ Church is part of the Kingdom _____ of God.
2. Jesus’ Church is not the same thing as the promised _____ Kingdom.



3. Jesus’ Church was never intended to function the way a _____ functions.

The Means of Attack: Matthew 16:21-23

_____ !

- Rather than a direct assault from a position of strength, Jesus’ ultimate defeat of Satan and his Counterfeit Kingdom would be made from a position of perceived weakness.
- The death blow to Satan that was promised in Gen. 3:15 would be dealt by a Suffering Servant rather than a Conquering King.

The New Covenant in Jesus’ Blood

Luke 22:14-20

- On the night He was betrayed, Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper as something to be done in remembrance of what He was to accomplish on the cross.
- Jesus’ work on the cross was the basis for how God would keep the promises of the New Covenant.

KEY PROMISE: The forgiveness of sin. (Jer. 31:34; Ezek. 36:25)

The Crucifixion

Luke 23:26-49

- Though the religious leaders had rejected Jesus as Messiah, at the beginning of the last week of His earthly life the people in and around Jerusalem had celebrated as He entered Jerusalem.
- Satan then worked to bring about events that would lead to Jesus’ execution.

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate fulfillment of all of the _____ performed in the Old Testament. (Gen. 3:21, 8:20, 22:13, Lev. 16:1-34...and many more)

Jesus' crucifixion provided _____ for sin. (Rom. 3:22-26)

Jesus' crucifixion _____ our sin to Jesus. (2 Cor. 5:21)

Jesus' crucifixion imputed Jesus's _____ to us. (Rom. 5:16-19)

Jesus' crucifixion conquered the great enemies of Humanity: Satan, Sin, & Death

JESUS DEFEATS _____—Colossians 2:13-15

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

JESUS FREES US FROM _____—Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

JESUS CONQUERS _____—1 Corinthians 15:20-26

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.