## The Gospel Message of the Kingdom of God

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### God, the creator of all things, creates Man

Thus says the <u>LORD</u>, <u>your Redeemer</u> who <u>formed you</u> from the womb: "I am the LORD, who has <u>made all things</u>, who <u>alone</u> stretched out the heavens, who <u>by myself</u> spead out the earth. Isa. 44:24

The Lord God <u>formed man of the dust of the ground</u> and <u>breathed into his nostrils</u> the <u>breath of life</u> and <u>man became a living soul</u>.

Gen. 2:7

God created man in his own image...

Gen. 1:27

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was <u>walking</u> in the garden in the cool of the day...

Gen. 3:8

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good...

Gen. 1:31

## Death, Sin, and the Curse Enter the World

Our bodies <u>return to the dust</u> of the earth, and the <u>breath</u> of life will go <u>back</u> to God, who gave it. Ecc. 12:7

When you take away their <u>breath</u>, they die and <u>return to their dust</u>. Psalms 104:29

Sleep the sleep of death.

Psalms 13:3

The body without the spirit (breath) is dead.

**James 2:26** 

But a man <u>dies</u> and is <u>laid low</u>; he <u>breathes his last</u> and is <u>no more</u>. Job 14:10

For the living know that they will die, but the dead <u>know nothing</u>. Ecc. 9:5

It is <u>not</u> the dead who praise the Lord, those who go down to the <u>place of silence</u>. Psalms 115:17

The <u>dead cannot praise</u>; they <u>cannot</u> raise their voices in praise. Those who go down to the <u>grave</u> can no longer hope in your faithfulness. <u>Only the living can praise you</u>. Isaiah 38:18-20

So man lies down and does not rise; <u>till the heavens are no more</u>, men will not awake or be roused from their sleep.

Job 14:12

No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven, the Son of Man. (Jesus).

John 3:13

#### God Promises Abraham and his descendants the Whole World

Clearly, <u>God's promise</u> to <u>give the whole earth</u> to <u>Abraham and his descendants</u> was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by <u>faith</u>.

Romans 4:13

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

Romans 4:13 (NIV)

And if you are <u>Christ's</u>, then you are <u>Abraham's offspring</u>, <u>heirs according to promise</u>. Galatians 3:29

Now you, <u>brothers and sisters</u>, like Isaac, are <u>children of promise</u>. Galatians 4:28

That the creation itself will be <u>liberated from its bondage to decay</u> and brought into the <u>freedom</u> and glory of the children of God.

Romans 8:21

In love he (God) <u>predestined</u> us for <u>adoption as sons through Jesus Christ</u>, according to the <u>purpose of his will</u>.

Ephesians 1:5

He (God) gave him (Abraham) <u>no inheritance here</u>, not even enough ground to set his foot on. But God <u>promised</u> him that he and his <u>descendants</u> after him would <u>possess the land</u>, even though at that time Abraham had no child.

Acts 7:5

By faith he (Abraham) made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. Hebrews 11:9

These (patriarchs of the Bible including Abraham) were all commended for their faith, <u>yet none</u> of them received what had been promised. God had <u>planned something better</u> for us so that <u>only together with us</u> would they be <u>made perfect</u>.

Hebrews 11:39-40

Generations come and generations go, but the earth remains forever.

Ecc. 1:4

God <u>himself</u> that <u>formed the earth</u> and <u>made it</u>; he hath <u>established it</u>, he <u>created it not in vain</u>, he <u>formed it to be inhabited</u>.

Isaiah 45:18

The <u>highest heavens belong to the LORD</u>, but the <u>earth</u> he has given to mankind. Psalms 115:16

# Jesus is the Savior by which we can obtain the promise (Kingdom of God)

For God so <u>loved the world</u> that he <u>gave</u> his only begotten <u>Son</u>, that whosoever <u>believeth in him should not perish</u> but have <u>everlasting life</u>.

John 3:16

<u>Jesus</u> answered, "I am the <u>way</u> and the <u>truth</u> and the <u>life</u>. <u>No one comes</u> to the Father <u>except</u> through me."

John 14:6

And if you are <u>Christ's</u>, then you are Abraham's offspring, <u>heirs</u> according to <u>promise</u>. Galatians 3:29

For there is <u>one God</u> and <u>one mediator</u> <u>between</u> God and men, the man <u>Christ Jesus</u>, who gave himself as a <u>ransom for all men</u>...

1 Timothy 2:5

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners --- of whom I am the worst.

1 Timothy 1:15

For the <u>wages of sin is death</u>; but the <u>gift of God is eternal life</u> <u>through Jesus Christ</u> our Lord. Romans 6:23

...I am the <u>resurrection and the life</u>. He who <u>believes in me</u> (Jesus) <u>will live</u>, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die...

John 11:25-26

Whoever <u>believes</u> and is <u>baptized</u> will be <u>saved</u>, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 16:16

<u>Neither is there salvation in any other</u>: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, <u>no one can enter</u> the <u>Kingdom of God</u> unless they are <u>born of water and the Spirit</u>.

John 3:5

But when they believed Phillip as he <u>preached the good news</u> of the <u>Kingdom of God</u> and the name of <u>Jesus Christ</u>, they were <u>baptized</u>, both men and women.

Acts 8:12

We were therefore <u>buried with him through baptism into death</u> in order that, just as <u>Christ was raised from the dead</u> **through the glory of the Father**, <u>we too</u> may <u>live a new life</u>.

Roman 6:4

If then you have <u>been raised with Christ</u>, <u>seek the things that are above</u>, where <u>Christ is</u>, <u>seated</u> at the right hand of God.

Col. 3:1

And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and wash your sins away calling on his name.

Acts 22:16

Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:27-28

For as in <u>Adam all die</u>, so <u>in Christ all will be made alive</u>. But <u>each in turn</u>. <u>Christ, the firstfruits</u>; then, <u>when he comes, those who belong to him</u>. Then the <u>end will come</u>, <u>when he hands over the Kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power</u>.

1 Corinthians 15:22-24

But he said, "I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."

Luke 4:43

And this gospel of the <u>Kingdom</u> <u>will be preached in the whole world as a testimony</u> to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:14

Jesus is coming back to resurrect the dead and judge. God will make all things new, and finally we inherit the New Earth (Kingdom of God) as the Fulfillment of the Promise to Abraham and his Descendants.

<u>Heaven must receive him</u> (Jesus) <u>until the time comes</u> for <u>God to restore everything</u>, as he <u>promised long ago through his holy prophets</u>.

Acts 3:21

"But I say to all of you: <u>In the future you will see the Son of Man</u> sitting at the right hand of the <u>Mighty One</u> and <u>coming on the clouds of heaven</u>."

Matt. 26:64

Behold, <u>I (Jesus) am coming soon!</u> My reward is with me, and <u>I will give to everyone according to what he has done.</u>

Rev. 22:12

For the <u>Son of Man (Jesus) shall come</u> in the <u>glory of his Father with his angels</u>; and then he shall <u>reward every man according to his works</u>.

Matt. 16:27

No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Mark 13:32

For as <u>lightening that comes from the east is visible even in the west</u>, so will be the <u>coming of</u> the Son of Man.

Matt. 24:27

If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change comes. You will call, and I will answer. You will long for the person your hands have made.

Job 14:14-15

Do not be amazed at this, for <u>a time is coming</u> when <u>all who are in their graves</u> will <u>hear his voice and come out</u>—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

John 5:28-29

<u>Precious</u> in the <u>sight of the Lord</u> is the <u>death of his faithful servants</u>. Psalms 116:15

But <u>your dead will live</u>, <u>Lord</u>; their <u>bodies will rise</u>--let <u>those who dwell in the dust wake up and</u> shout for joy!

Isaiah 26:19 (NIV)

Ezekiel 37 (Valley of Dry Bones is a vision of the future resurrection of the dead.)

For the <u>Lord himself shall descend from heaven</u> with a <u>shout</u>, with the <u>voice of the archangel</u>, and <u>with the trump of God</u>: and the <u>dead in Christ shall rise first</u>:

I Thes. 4:16

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

I Thes. 4:17

Listen, I tell you a mystery: <u>We will not all sleep</u>, but we will all be <u>changed</u>—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the <u>dead will be raised imperishable</u>, and <u>we will be changed</u>.

I Cor.15:51-52

...There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time <u>your people</u> – <u>everyone whose name is found written in the book – will be delivered</u>. <u>Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake</u>: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

Daniel 12:1-2

Just as man is <u>destined to die once</u>, and after that to <u>face judgment</u>, so <u>Christ was sacrificed</u> <u>once to take away the sins of many people</u>: and <u>he will appear a second time</u>, not to bear sin, but to <u>bring salvation to those who are waiting for him</u>.

Heb. 9:27-28

These (patriarchs of the Bible including Abraham) were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what have been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Heb. 11:39-40

Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. Isaiah 26:19

I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day --- and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

II Tim. 4:7-8

For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man (Jesus) he has appointed...

Acts 17:31

By the <u>same word</u> (God's word) the <u>present heavens and earth</u> are <u>reserved for fire</u>, being <u>kept</u> for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

II Peter 3:7

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. <u>The heavens will disappear with a roar;</u> the elements will be <u>destroyed by fire</u>, and the <u>earth and everything in it will be laid bare</u>. If Peter 3:10

I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled.

Luke 12:49

Continue to <u>do what is right</u>. <u>Don't be proud</u>. Then perhaps the Lord will keep you safe on the day he pours out his anger on the world.

Zephaniah 2:3

So wait for me to <u>come as judge</u>, announces the Lord. <u>Wait for the day I will stand up to witness against all sinners</u>. I have decided to <u>gather the nations</u>. I will <u>bring the kingdoms together</u>. And <u>I will pour out my burning anger on them</u>. The <u>fire of my jealous anger will burn the whole world up.</u>

Zephaniah 3:8

But in keeping with his promise, we are looking forward to a new heaven and a **new earth**, the home of righteousness.

II Peter 3:13

Then I saw a <u>new heaven</u> and a <u>new earth</u>, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

Rev. 21:1

I saw the <u>Holy City</u>, the <u>new Jerusalem</u>, <u>coming down out of heaven from God</u>, <u>prepared</u> as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

Rev. 21:2 (see also Heb. 13:14)

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God."

Rev. 21:3 (see also Job 19:25-26)

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Rev. 21:4

He who was seated on the throne said, "<u>I am making everything new!</u>" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Rev. 21:5 (see also 2 Peter 3:13)

See, <u>I will create new heavens and a new earth</u>. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and <u>rejoice forever in what I will create</u>, for I will <u>create</u> **Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy**.

Isaiah 65:17-25

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe <u>also</u> in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will <u>come again</u>, and <u>receive you unto myself</u>; that <u>where I am</u>, there ye may be also.

John 14:1-3

(see also Rev. 21:2 and Heb. 13:14)

For we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

Heb. 13:14

(see also Rev. 21:2)

But ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the <u>city of the living God</u>, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. (The new Jerusalem will be built in heaven by Jesus and then sent down from heaven to the new earth by God.)

Hebrews 12:22

(see also John 14:1-3 and Rev. 21:2)

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the Kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

I Cor.15:22-24

I know that **my Redeemer lives**, and that **in the end he will stand upon the earth**. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet **in my flesh I will see God**...

Job 19:25-26 (see also Rev. 21:3)

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. <u>Thy Kingdom come</u>. <u>Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven</u>. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: <u>For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever</u>. Amen

Matt. 6:9-13

Blessed are the meek for they shall **inherit the earth**.

Matt. 5:5

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Matt. 5:8

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what **God has prepared** for those who love him."

I Cor. 2:9

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the <u>crown of life</u> that <u>God has promised</u> to those who <u>love him</u>.

James 1:12

But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matt. 6:33

Make every effort to <u>live in peace with everyone</u> and to <u>be holy</u>, without holiness no one will <u>see the Lord.</u>

Heb. 12:14

Now this is <u>eternal life</u>: that they <u>know you, the only true God</u>, **and** <u>Jesus Christ</u>, whom you have sent.

John 17:3

# God had in plan, from the beginning of creation, a salvation plan (Jesus & the coming Kingdom of God) and revealed it to his prophets and people

...I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David <u>died</u> and was <u>buried</u>, and his <u>tomb is here to this day</u>. But <u>he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him an oath</u> that he would <u>place one of his descendants on his throne</u>. <u>Seeing what was to come</u>, he <u>spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah</u>, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead (some versions use <u>hell</u>, <u>meaning grave</u>) nor did his body see decay...

Acts 2:29-31

For <u>David did not ascend to heaven</u>, and <u>yet he said</u>, "<u>The LORD said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand **until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet**."</u>

Acts 2:34

...There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people - <u>everyone whose name is found written in the book</u> - <u>will be delivered</u>. <u>Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake</u>: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

Daniel 12:1-2

For <u>he chose us in him before the creation of the world</u> to <u>be holy and blameless in his sight</u>. <u>In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ</u>, in accordance with his pleasure and will.

Eph. 1:4-5

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him...

Eph. 1:11

<u>Lamb slain before the foundation</u> (creation) of the world. Rev. 13:8

For the <u>creation was subjected to frustration</u>, not by its own choice, but by the <u>will of the one</u> <u>who subjected it</u>, in hope that the creation itself will be <u>liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God</u>...earth groans...<u>we long for the change of our bodies</u>...

Romans 8:20-25

Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day (Jesus day), and he saw it and was glad." John 8:56

# Paul writes, in his first letter to the Corinthians, a powerful summary of the <u>Gospel message of the Kingdom of God:</u>

20 But <u>Christ</u> has indeed been <u>raised from the dead</u>, the <u>firstfruits</u> of those who have <u>fallen asleep</u>. 21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 22 For as <u>in Adam all die</u>, so <u>in Christ all will be made alive</u>. 23 <u>But each in turn</u>: Christ, the firstfruits; <u>then</u>, <u>when he comes</u>, those who belong to him. 24 <u>Then the end will come</u>, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father <u>after</u> he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. 25 <u>For he must reign</u> until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For he "has put everything under his feet."] Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, <u>it is clear</u> that this <u>does not include God himself</u>, who put everything under Christ. 28 <u>When</u> he has done this, <u>then</u> the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, **so that God may be all in all**.

1 Cor. 15:20-28