

World Government by Jesus Christ

Men and women have always longed for good government. There have been rare periods when there has been peace and security for some people but sadly that has been at the cost of much suffering for others.

The 'Pax Romana' of New Testament times (the time when the Romans brought a sort of stability to Europe and the Middle East), was enforced by physical force and hideous cruelty, the worst example being when they crucified Jesus.

It was the same during the 'Pax Britannica' when Britain ruled a big empire, whilst many people in the UK itself and in other countries endured terrible sufferings.

Four Essential Qualities

The fact is that unaided human beings are too flawed to rule their fellows properly. There are four problems. Men and women lack:

- ❖ the necessary wisdom,
- ❖ the essential goodness,
- ❖ the power to enforce good government, and
- ❖ immortality; so that if – very rarely – a really honest, well-meaning, capable person does arise, before long he or she is removed by death.

The difference between Jesus and everyone else is that when he was here he demonstrated that he does have the first three of these rulership qualities. Now, in addition, he has

been given eternal life by God, so that when he rules he can rule for ever. Jesus has all these qualities in perfection.

Foretold!

The coming of Jesus had been prophesied 700 years before in Isaiah 11:1–9, where Jesus is compared to a new strong shoot springing from the roots of an old tree (the family of King David):

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord, and he shall not judge by the sight of his eyes, nor decide by the hearing of his ears; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked ... They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea (Isaiah 11:1–9).

The Gospels show us how Jesus had the first three qualities, even as a mortal man, and he gained the fourth after his resurrection.

- ❖ **Wisdom** – *When he had come to his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were*

astonished and said, “Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? (Matthew 13:54);

- ❖ **Goodness** – Which of you convicts me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? (John 8:46);
- ❖ **Power** – They were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this is! For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out” (Luke 4:36);
- ❖ **Eternal Life** – He laid his right hand on me, saying to me, “Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am he who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death (Revelation 1:17–18).

He is Worthy

In Jesus, God has provided a worthy ruler for the whole earth. He is the key to those promises about the future Kingdom of God that we find in the Old Testament: statements like these:

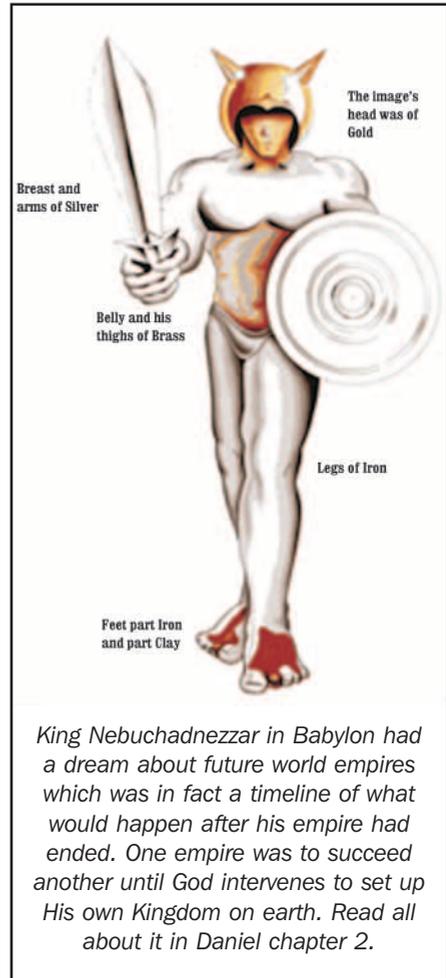
In the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever (Daniel 2:44);

“I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought him near before Him. Then to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed (Daniel 7:13–14).

The Bible gives us a clear idea of what this world-wide rule by Jesus will be like. Read Psalm 72 for an insight into the sort of life God has promised when Jesus is King. Read the rest of the Bible to find out what God wants of you if you are to be there with the Lord Jesus when he comes.

John Woodall



King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon had a dream about future world empires which was in fact a timeline of what would happen after his empire had ended. One empire was to succeed another until God intervenes to set up His own Kingdom on earth. Read all about it in Daniel chapter 2.