

Ancient Israel

A Picture of the Kingdom of God



the Kingdom of God



- "kingdom of God" mentioned 52 times in the Gospels
- "kingdom of God" mentioned 68 times in NT

the Kingdom of God



All Your works shall praise You, O LORD, And Your saints shall bless You. ¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, And talk of Your power, ¹² To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, And the glorious majesty of His kingdom. ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Psalm 145:10 - 13

the Kingdom of God



Matthew 6:33 ³³ "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.



The Disciples Had the Vision



'And I will cause the captives of Judah and the captives of Israel to return, and will rebuild those places as at the first.

Jeremiah 33:7



"Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Acts 1:6





Kingdom Truth Hidden

And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God . . . NKJ Mark 4:11



Correcting the Current Dogma

- ♦ The Ten Lost Tribes of Israel are no more. Today, all Israelites are Jews.
- ◆ Israel was never a major player in world history
- ◆ The Church, not Israel, will play the major role in end time events.



"Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days." (1 Kings 3:11-13)



the Glory Years

- ♦ A United Kingdom
- ◆ Peace
- ♦ Wealth
- ♦ Happiness
- ◆ Fulfilling Their Purpose
- ♦ God in Their Midst





Israel and Judah Together

- ◆ Prior to David dynasty, Israel was a divided nation (2 Sam. 2:8). There were wars between Israel and Judah (2 Sam. 2:12; 3:1)
- ↑ 7 ½ years into David's reign, he became King over both Judah and Israel (2 Sam. 5:1-3)



Israel and Judah Together

So Solomon sat on the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.

ESV 1 Kings 2:12



Peace

◆ Solomon was left with a strong military — Over 1 ½ million men strong!

Then Joab gave the sum of the number of the people to David. All Israel had one million one hundred thousand men who drew the sword, and Judah had four hundred and seventy thousand men who drew the sword.

(1 Chronicles 21:5)



Peace

²¹ Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt ²⁴ For he had dominion over all the region west of the Euphrates from Tiphsah to Gaza, over all the kings west of the Euphrates. And he had **peace on all sides** around him. ²⁵ And Judah and Israel **lived in safety**, from Dan even to Beersheba, every man **under his vine and under his fig tree**, all the days of Solomon.

(1 Kings 4:21-25)



Wealth

- ◆ Solomon asked for the wisdom to righteously govern God's Kingdom
- ♦ Riches and Honor were given to him
- ♦ Gold became as common as stones (2 Chron. 1:15)
- ♦ Silver was so common it was considered to have no value. (1 Kings 10:21)



Wealth

For the king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the merchant ships came, bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and monkeys. ²² So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

2 Chronicles 9:21-22

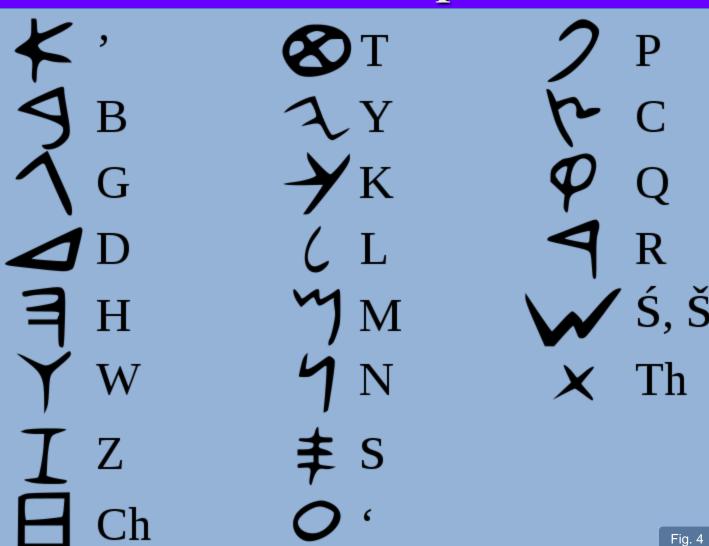


A Word About Phoenicia

- ◆ Rose to greatness 1000 BC
- ♦ Vast maritime empire
- ♦ Major cities were Tyre and Sidon
- ◆ Located just north of Israel
- ♦ Only 10 15 miles wide



Phoenician Alphabet





Happiness

- ◆ The people's happiness exceeded the expectations of visiting dignitaries. (2 Chronicles 9:3-7)
- ◆ The people had confidence in their king and his judgements (1 Kings 3:28)



2 Chronicles 9:3-7 "And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ⁴ the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers and their apparel, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her. 5 Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. ⁶ "However I did not believe their words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You exceed the fame of which I heard. 7 "Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom!"



Fulfilling Israel's Purpose

- ♦ The world was coming to hear Solomon's wisdom (1 Kings 10:23-24)
- ♦ Israel had he opportunity to teach God's ways to the nations (1 Kings 10:25)



YHVH in Their Midst

- He would dwell among them
- ◆ God's glory filled the Temple





YHVH in Their Midst

◆ ¹² "Concerning this temple which you are building, if you walk in My statutes, execute My judgments, keep all My commandments, and walk in them, then I will perform My word with you, which I spoke to your father David. ¹³ "And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake My people Israel." (1 Kings 6:12-13)



The Conclusion of the Matter

What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already in the ages before us.

(Ecclesiastes 1:9-10)



The Conclusion of the Matter

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. (NKJ Isaiah 2:2)

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Shalom Alechim

Peace be Unto You