

GOD'S PLAN UNFOLDS

Part 10

NT Overview: Apostles

Jesus' apostles unfold the current phase of the kingdom where the Church does kingdom work and watches for its King

**GOD'S PLAN UNFOLDS, PART 10 -
MESSAGE**

I. The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church doing kingdom work

- ▶ Acts 8:12; Col 4:11
- ▶ The kingdom manifests itself in gospel power to save sinners (1 Cor 4:20)
 - ▶ One people of God (Eph 2:13-22)
 - ▶ Royal priesthood (1 Pet 2:5; Heb 13:15)
 - ▶ “Minister” = official serving the King (Rom 15:16)

NT OVERVIEW: APOSTLES

I. The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church doing kingdom work (cont.)

- ▶ **While we work, our King reigns in heaven**
 - ▶ **At God's right hand (Eph 1:20-23; Col 3:1)**
 - ▶ **We live by His "royal law" (Jas 2:8)**
 - ▶ **He is Creator, mover of history Heb (1:5-13)**
 - ▶ **Priest of the New Covenant (Heb 6:20; chs 7-9)**
- ▶ **Citizens of heaven (Col 1:13-14; Phil 3:20)**

NT OVERVIEW: APOSTLES

II. The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church watching for her King

- ▶ **We wait for the period of restoration**
 - ▶ Acts 3:19-21; 14:22; 2 Pet 1:11
 - ▶ Rom 8:19; Col 3:4; Titus 2:13; Heb 12:28
- ▶ **We wait for Israel's promised salvation**
 - ▶ Rom 9 – 11
 - ▶ Isa 11:11; 65:9-10; Zech 12-13; Mic 5:3-4

NT OVERVIEW: APOSTLES

II. The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church watching for her King (cont.)

- ▶ **We patiently wait for our King to return to earth**
 - ▶ **Jas 5:7-8; Acts 1:9-11**
 - ▶ **Why? (1 Thess 5:1-11; 2 Pet 3:10-14)**
- ▶ **We wait for the redemption of our bodies**
 - ▶ **Rom 8:11; 1 Cor 15:20-26 (see Mk 4:28)**
 - ▶ **Why? (1 Cor 15:49-53; 1 Jn 3:2; 1 Thess 4:14-18)**

NT OVERVIEW: APOSTLES

II. The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church watching for her King (cont.)

- ▶ **We wait for Christ to come as judge**
 - ▶ **2 Cor 5:10; 2 Thess 1:6-10; 2 Tim 4:1**
- ▶ **We wait for Christ to destroy the coming Antichrist**
 - ▶ **1 Jn 2:18-22; 4:3; 2 Jn 1:7; 2 Thess 2:1-12**

NT OVERVIEW: APOSTLES

MAN OF LAWLESSNESS – 2 THESS 2:1-12

The Reformation Study Bible, R. C. Sproul, ed., p. 1746

“This is an individual embodiment of wickedness, whose arrogant blasphemies Paul lists (cf. 1 John 2:22). He will draw away by deception those already inclined against the true God (v. 10) and will ultimately commit the sacrilege of thrusting himself upon humanity as its object of worship (v. 4)...

MAN OF LAWLESSNESS – 2 THESS 2:1-12

The Reformation Study Bible, R. C. Sproul, ed., p. 1746

“He comes by the power of Satan, as Christ came by the power of God, and he works fraudulent wonders as Christ worked true ones (v. 9; cf. Acts 2:22). Paul depicts this imposter as a parody or antithesis of the true Christ....

MAN OF LAWLESSNESS – 2 THESS 2:1-12

The Reformation Study Bible, R. C. Sproul, ed., p. 1746

“Paul himself does not use the term “antichrist” (1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3), but it is a fitting designation. His fate is sealed; he will be destroyed by the coming of Christ”

See the boastful “little horn” in Dan 7:8, 20-21; 8:9-12; 11:31, 36; Mt 24:15 and Rev 13:1-8