

STUDY XIII
THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD

- (1) What was Jehovah's purpose concerning His earthly creation and its government, as declared in Genesis? Page 245 par. 1.
- (2) Was the first dominion given to Adam alone or to the whole human race? Page 245, par. 2.
- (3) In the beginning was one man given authority to rule over his fellow men? What form of government was originally designed by God? Page 246, par. 1, 2.
- (4) Upon what one contingency did the everlasting continuance of the first dominion depend? Page 246, par. 3.
- (5) How was this first establishment of the Kingdom of God in the earth overthrown? When and under what circumstances was it for a short time reestablished? Page 247, par. 1.
- (6) How and by whom was the forfeited inheritance redeemed, and when will it be restored? Will the reign of Messiah on the earth be everlasting? If not, why not? Page 247, par. 2.
- (7) Under what two forms of government was the typical Kingdom of God established during the Jewish age? Page 248, par. 1.
- (8) When and under what circumstances was this typical Kingdom of God overthrown? Page 248, par. 2, 3.
- (9) How long was the Kingdom of God on earth decreed to remain overturned? What is, therefore, the inference respecting all other kingdoms in power since Zedekiah's time? Page 249, par. 1, 2.
- (10) How is the period of time intervening between the removal of God's government and the re-establishment of the same in power and glory Scripturally designated? Page 249, par. 3.
- (11) Evil and unsatisfactory as these Gentile Kingdoms have been, why were they permitted or "ordained" of God? Page 250, par. 1.
- (12) To what two causes may man's inability to establish a perfect government in the earth be attributed? Page 250, par. 2.

- (13) What are the two phases of the dominion of earth as at present exercised? Page 251, par. 1.
- (14) What has been the experience of the groaning creation during the centuries past, and for what is it hoping and waiting? Page 251, par. 2.
- (15) Have God's faithful children been left in darkness respecting the present reign of evil and His ultimate design to bring in a better government in His due time? Page 251, par. 3.
- (16) How do we know that man's present effort to exercise dominion is not in successful defiance of God's will and power, but by divine permission? Page 251, par. 4.
- (17) What was the dream of Nebuchadnezzar and its divine interpretation through the Prophet Daniel? (Dan. 2:31-45.) Page 252, par. 2.
- (18) Explain the symbolic interpretation of the "stone cut out of the mountain without hands." Page 255, par. 2.
- (19) How might the stone be considered during its preparation, while being cut out? And how does this apply to the church? Page 255, par. 3.
- (20) What New Testament Scriptures corroborate this interpretation of the "stone" smiting the nations? Page 255, par. 4.
- (21) In Nebuchadnezzar's vision how were the empires of earth regarded from the world's standpoint and from Jehovah's, respectively? Page 256, par. 1.
- (22) What antitype do we find in the experiences of the "stone" class during its preparative period? Page 256, par. 2.
- (23) What will the smiting of the "great image" mean to the oppressed and groaning creation? Page 257, par. 1.
- (24) Describe the vision of these four universal kingdoms as given to the Prophet Daniel. (Dan. 2: 27-45) Page 257, par. 2 to page 258, par. 1.
- (25) What did the dreadful and terrible "beast with ten horns" represent? How was the Papacy symbolized in the vision? Page 258, par. 2.
- (26) Why did Daniel give no descriptive name to this "fourth beast"? Pages 258, par. 3.

(27) What was to be the difference between the destruction of the "little horn" and that of the "beast" itself? Page 259, par. 1.

(28) How and when will the Roman Empire be finally overthrown, and when did the "consuming" of the "little horn" begin? Page 259, par. 2.

(29) What do the "great words which the horn spake" signify? (Dan. 7:11.) Page 259, par. 3.

(30) What is to be the end of the Roman Empire as shown in Daniel's vision, and what is the difference between the final experience of the fourth beast and that of its predecessors? Page 260, par. 1.

(31) What will be the cause of its destruction, and how was this pictured in Daniel's vision? (Dan. 7:13, 27.) Page 260, par. 2.

(32) By whom is the dominion of earth to be placed in the hands of the Christ? How long must Christ reign, and what is the first step toward the accomplishment of this great mediatorial work? Page 261, par. 1.

(33) As the Lord's consecrated people view these Gentile kingdoms from the foregoing standpoint, what is the prayer of their hearts? Page 261, par. 2.

(34) Did each of these kingdoms exist before it came into power? And does the Fifth Universal Empire have a similar experience? What does this indicate as respects the time for the setting up of God's Kingdom? Page 261, par. 3.

(35) Although supreme authority to rule will forever belong to Jehovah, we see that He gave subordinate control to Adam. What was the first and chief cause of man's inability to govern the dominion of earth? Page 262, par. 1.

(36) While man's efforts along the line of government have not been very satisfactory, to what condition have they been vastly superior? What form of rule would have been more acceptable to Satan? What was man's idea of self-government, and how did this prove to be Satan's opportunity? Page 262, par. 2.

(37) Notwithstanding their failures, what has been the ostensible object in the organization of all human governments? Page 263, par. 1, 2.

(38) Was it because of the lack of wise and suitable laws, or of courts of justice, that the kingdoms of this world became so beastly in character? Or where does the responsibility properly rest? Page 263, par. 3; page 264, par. 1.

(39) As a rule, have the various governments established from time to time been representative of the average ability of the people to govern themselves? Page 264, par. 2.

(40) What is the sentiment of the masses today as compared with conditions in the past? When did the change begin and how has it progressed? Page 265, par. 1.

(41) How has the general increase of knowledge affected mankind? And what may we expect as the supreme, final expression of selfishness and discontent? How will man's extremity become God's opportunity? Page 265, par. 2.

(42) Why did neither Jesus nor the apostles interfere in any way with earthly rulers? Page 266, par. 1.

(43) What should be the attitude of the church toward the governments of this world as respects offices, rights or privileges? How can the church help the world to improve present conditions? In what manner only can the saints influence the world? Page 266, par. 2.

(44) To what should the church give its entire attention, and why? Page 267, par. 1.

(45) What was the temptation into which the church fell shortly after the death of the apostles of the Lord? Page 268, par. 1.

(46) What wonderful changes followed as a result of this new policy on the part of the church? Page 268, par. 2.

(47) What was the origin of the so-called "divine right of kings"? Page 268, par. 3.

(48) Did God ever approve of calling the kingdoms of this world by the name of Christ? Page 269, par. 1, 2.

(49) What serious injury to the people of God has resulted from the claim that Christ's Kingdom is now ruling and reigning? And what claims and efforts are being put forth by some toward making the United States a Christian Nation constitutionally? Page 269, par. 3.

(50) How should the best and the worst of earthly governments be regarded in order that we may take the divine standpoint? Page 270. par. 1.

(51) Laboring under a false sense of duty toward these so-called Christian nations to what side are the sympathies of many Christians being forced? Page 270, par. 2.

(52) What is the attitude of the rapidly awakening world of mankind toward Christendom? Page 270. par. 3.

(53) In what manner might the great Time of Trouble be averted? And what is the Lord's exhortation to the world through the word of the Psalmist? Page 271, par. 1, 2.