

HERE AND NOW

The Gospel of Jesus

Jewish Tikkun Olam

Jewish Apocalyptic World View

A Revealing

Heavenly Secrets the could make sense of Earthly Realities

Daniel

Jewish Apocrypha

Dead Sea Scrolls

Four Tenants:

Dualism

Cosmic Good and Evil with Earthly Participants

Cosmic Forces - Enemies of God

Sin, Death, Devil and Demons

Historical Participants -

Babylon - Oppressors of the Weak

Persians - Oppressors of the Weak

Greece - Oppressors of the Weak

Rome - Oppressors of the Weak

Cosmic Enemies are Presently In Control

Good Will Suffer / Evil Will Prosper

Pessimistic Impotence

Eventual overthrow but nothing we can do in the meantime (Variation of the Pharisees)

Two Ages

Worse and Worse Climaxing in Vindication

Judgment and Vindication

Cataclysmic Breakthrough & Utopia

Inauguration of God's Kingdom on Earth

Bodily Resurrection

Everyone will either face Punishment or

Reward

Imminence of the End

Matthew 3.2— [John] And saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Daniel 12.1-2— "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. 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—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt."

"To set the oppressed free." Luke 4:18

All Texts Quoted from the NIV Unless Otherwise Noted

*“Even after the battle at Mantinea, which Thucydides has described, the one who first announced the victory had no other reward for his glad tidings [euangelion – singular] than a piece of meat sent by the magistrates from the public mess” (Plutarch; Agesilaus, p. 33, 1st century, emphasis mine).

“Accordingly, when [Aristodemus] had come near, he stretched out his hand and cried with a loud voice: ‘Hail, King Antigonos, we have conquered Ptolemy in a sea-fight, and now hold Cyprus, with 12,800 soldiers as prisoners of war.’ To this, Antigonos replied: ‘Hail to thee also, by Heaven! but for torturing us in this way, thou shalt undergo punishment; the reward for thy good tidings [euange- lion – plural] thou shalt be some time in getting” (Plutarch; Demetrius, p. 17, 1st century, emphasis mine).

“Why, as we are told, the Spartans merely sent meat from the public commons to the man who brought glad tidings [euangelion] of the victory in Mantinea which Thucydides describes! And indeed the compilers of histories are, as it were, reporters of great exploits who are gifted with the faculty of felicitous speech, and achieve success in their writing through the beauty and force of their narration; and to them those who first encountered and recorded the events [εὐαγγέλιον – euangelion] are indebted for a pleas- ing retelling of them” (Plutarch; Moralia (Glory of Athens), p. 347, 1st century, emphasis mine).

“metanoesein kai pistos emoi genesesthai.” - The Life Of Flavius Josephus, (Thackery 110)

****Matthew 13.31-33**— He told them another parable: “**The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed**, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” He told them still another parable: “**The kingdom of heaven is like yeast** that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Heaven; Private, Personal Jesus; Engaged

“We must critique versions of Christianity that are radically privatized and/or intentionally removed from all social politics, and we must also critique interpretations of Jesus’ teachings that are opiates for the oppressed and encourage them to be passive in the face of injustice.” (<https://renewedheartministries.com/Esights/01-13-2017>)

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Matthew 4.17—From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Matthew 10.7—As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’

Mark 1.15—“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

***Luke 10.9**—Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

Luke 10.11—‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’

John 18.36—Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

****Matthew 6.10**—Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Luke 6.20-26—Looking at his disciples, he said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. But woe to you who **are** rich, for you have already received your comfort. Woe to you who are well fed **now**, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh **now**, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Matthew 5.5—Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Pyramids, Circles and Tables

