

Daniel 7:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Analysis

This verse reveals the ultimate destiny of God's people: "the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High." The phrase "people of the saints" refers to God's covenant community—believers who belong to the Holy One. The comprehensive scope "under the whole heaven" indicates total, universal rule replacing all earthly kingdoms. What began with the Son of Man receiving the kingdom (v. 13-14) extends to His people sharing in His reign.

The phrase "whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom" applies both to God and to His people's participation in His rule. This represents staggering eschatological hope—believers will not merely inhabit God's kingdom but actively reign with Christ (Revelation 5:10, 20:6, 22:5). "All dominions shall serve and obey him" indicates universal submission to God's authority, with believers as His vice-regents exercising delegated authority. The word "serve" (pelach, פְּלָח) and "obey" (shema, שְׁמָע) together emphasize both external compliance and internal submission.

This promise fulfills God's original creation mandate to humanity to exercise dominion over creation (Genesis 1:26-28), forfeited through sin but restored

through Christ. Believers share Christ's inheritance as co-heirs (Romans 8:17), participating in His eternal reign. This demonstrates that salvation isn't merely rescue from judgment but restoration to humanity's created purpose—glorifying God through Spirit-empowered governance of renewed creation. It motivates present faithfulness by revealing eternal significance of current obedience.

Historical Context

Daniel 7:27 concludes the chapter's apocalyptic vision, providing ultimate encouragement to persecuted believers that their suffering is temporary but their future glory eternal. For Jewish exiles under Babylonian, Persian, Greek, and Roman domination, this prophecy assured them that their current oppression would be reversed—oppressors would become servants, and God's people would exercise authority in the coming kingdom. This hope sustained Jewish faithfulness during Maccabean persecution and early Christian endurance during Roman persecution.

Reformed theology interprets this reign as beginning spiritually in the present age (believers already seated with Christ in heavenly places—Ephesians 2:6) and consummating physically in the eternal state. The already-not yet tension characterizes believers' current experience: positionally reigning with Christ yet experientially awaiting full manifestation of kingdom authority. This balanced perspective motivates faithful service while maintaining eternal perspective.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does understanding your future reign with Christ in His eternal kingdom affect your present response to suffering and persecution?

2. In what ways are you currently exercising kingdom authority as Christ's representative, and how will this be perfected in the eternal state?

Interlinear Text

מלך ות And the kingdom H4437	שלט כי א and dominion H7985	ורבotta ת and the greatness H7238	ד י H1768	מלך ות And the kingdom H4437
				קדוש of the saints H6922
under and all H8460	heaven H3606	shall be given H8065	לע מ to the people H3052	קדוש of the saints H6922
				מלך ות And the kingdom H4437
				מלך ות And the kingdom H4437
				על מ is an everlasting H5957
				על מ and all H3606
				ישתתמעו: shall serve H6399
				שלט כי א and obey H8086
				ל ה H0

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 72:11 (Kingdom): Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

Revelation 11:15 (Kingdom): And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Luke 1:33 (Kingdom): And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Psalms 22:27 (Parallel theme): All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

Daniel 7:14 (Kingdom): And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is

an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 7:18 (Kingdom): But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Daniel 2:44 (Kingdom): And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Isaiah 9:7 (Kingdom): Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Psalms 145:13 (Kingdom): Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

Psalms 86:9 (Parallel theme): All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

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