



ISRAEL OR PALESTINE?

Thinking Biblically About the Land of Israel

**NEXT
YEAR IN
JERUSALEM!**

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JERUSALEM!**

**NEXT YEAR
IN JERUSALEM***
**or even this year!*



REASON FOR STUDY:

To think biblically about the land of Israel.

FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPTS:

1. God promised the land to Abraham (the first Jew) and his descendants.
2. God ratified that promise with a unilateral, unconditional covenant.



WHY DID GOD CHOOSE *THIS* LAND?

- 3) Israel was to be a godly influence on the wicked world.
- 4) This global influence was possible due to God placing Israel in the most strategic spot on the international highway of the ancient world.



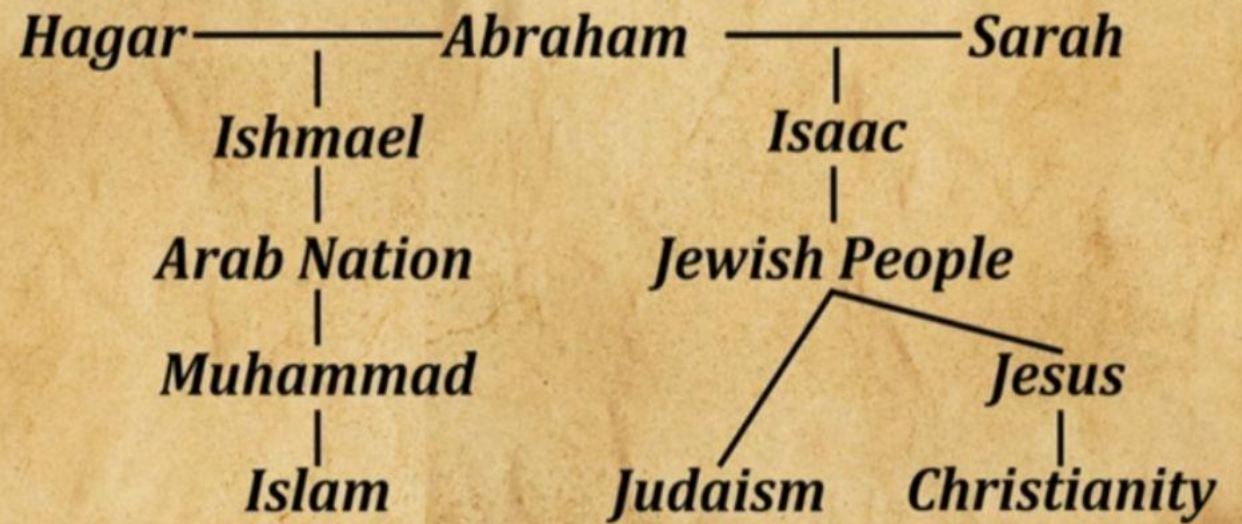
Reason #1

There is ancient spiritual animosity over the land.

Reason #2

The land always belongs to Israel, but disobedience brings exile from it.

Abraham's Descendants



*The Mosaic covenant is a bilateral, conditional covenant.

THE OBSERVABLE & PATTERNABLE DIVINE PROGRAM FOR ISRAEL:

1. Dispersion (Lev. 26:27-28, 33; Dt. 28:64-66) followed by...
2. Preservation (Lev. 26:44; Dt. 30:1) followed by...
3. Restoration (Lev. 26:42; Dt. 30:3) followed by...
4. Reconciliation (Lev. 26:45; Dt. 30:5-6; Jer. 32:37-41)



Cyrus Cylinder-Decree

SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KINGDOM:

1. The righteous King rules from the world capital, Jerusalem.
2. Global peace between nations.
3. Animal kingdom is restored to peace.
4. Humanity experiences unmatched health.
5. Vegetation becomes incredibly productive.



I. THE KING & THE KINGDOM PRESENTED. (MATT. 1-10)

“Repent for the kingdom of
God/heaven is at hand!”

“The gospel of the kingdom.”

WORLD HISTORY
FORETOLD

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream
Daniel 2:31-45

Head of Gold
BABYLON

Breast of Silver
PERSIA

Thighs of Brass
GREECE

Legs of Iron
ROME

Feet of Iron and Clay
REVIVED ROMAN
EMPIRE



UNIVERSAL KINGDOM

God's eternal rule
over all creation.

MEDIATORIAL/ THEOCRATIC KINGDOM

God's rule on
earth through
man/Man who acts
as God's
representative.

“On multiple occasions the OT prophets declared that national repentance on Israel’s part would bring the kingdom blessings and reinstatement to the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant. Passages such as Leviticus 26:40-45; Jeremiah 3:12-18; and 2 Chronicles 7:13-14 reveal this... the declaration, “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” shows that Israel’s Messiah was now in Israel’s midst and the kingdom was on the brink. But repentance would be necessary for Israel to inherit this kingdom. What the OT prophets predicted was now an imminent reality and choice for Israel. What will they choose?”

Michael Vlach, *He will Reign Forever*, 167.

I. THE KING & THE KINGDOM PRESENTED. (MATT. 1-10)

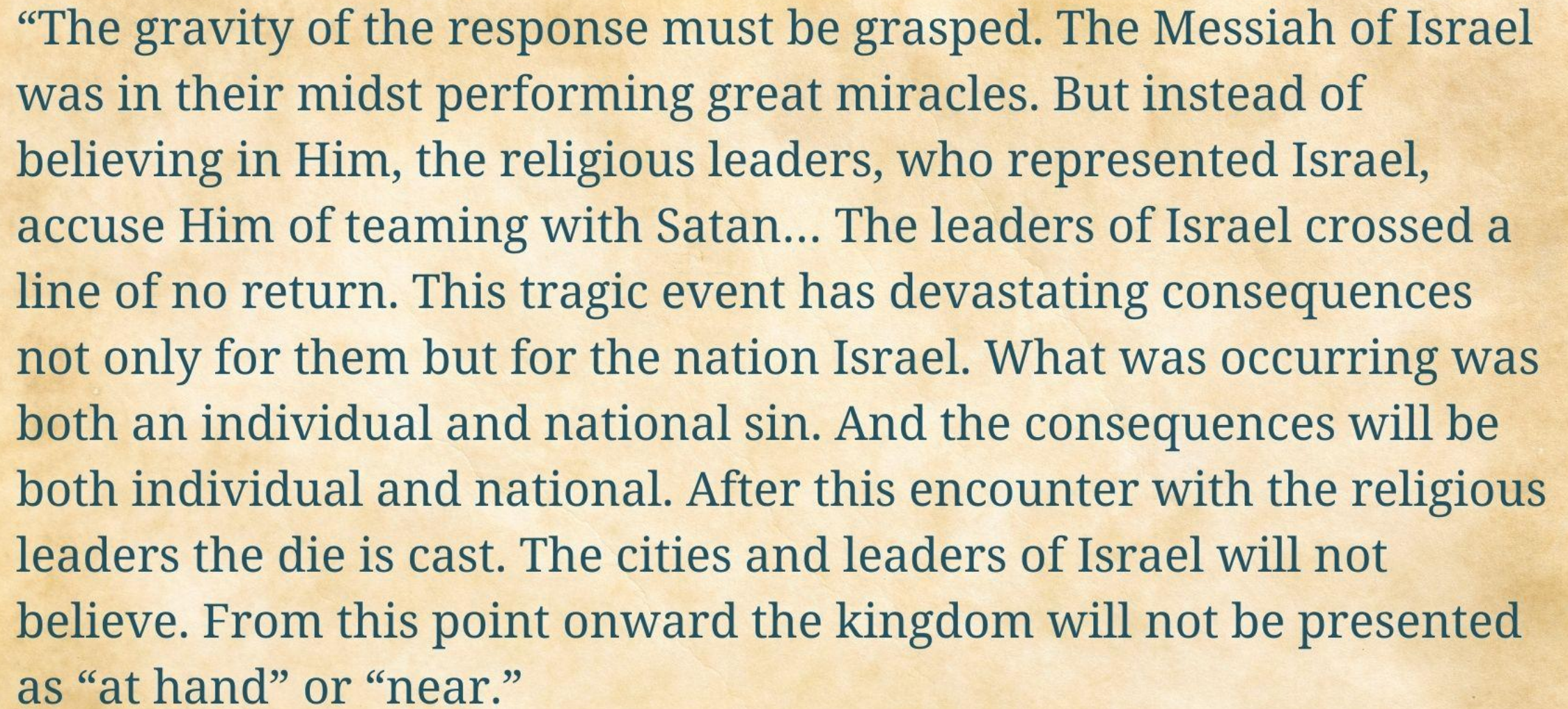
- 1) Jesus' curse-reversing power of healing. (Mt. 9:35)
- 2) Jesus' curse-reversing power over creation. (Mt. 8:23-27)
- 3) Jesus' curse-reversing power over the kingdom of Satan/darkness. (Matt. 8:28-34)

II. THE KING & THE KINGDOM REJECTED. (MATT. 11-12)



Q: “This man cannot be the Son of David can he?”

A: “This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of demons.”

The background of the image shows a blue sky with white clouds at the top. Below the sky, there is a stone wall with crenellations, likely part of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. On the left and right sides, there are golden domes of buildings, possibly the Dome of the Rock and the Dome of the Tears. The text is overlaid on a piece of aged, yellowed paper with a torn edge.

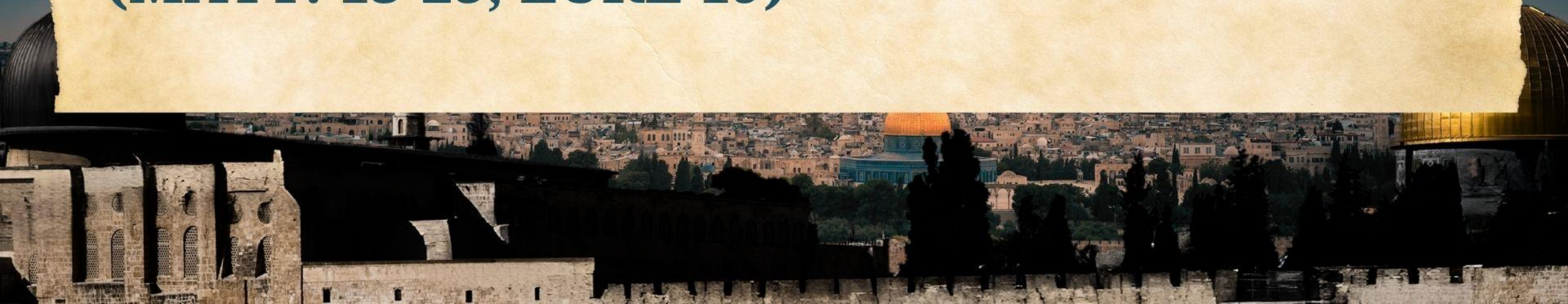
“The gravity of the response must be grasped. The Messiah of Israel was in their midst performing great miracles. But instead of believing in Him, the religious leaders, who represented Israel, accuse Him of teaming with Satan... The leaders of Israel crossed a line of no return. This tragic event has devastating consequences not only for them but for the nation Israel. What was occurring was both an individual and national sin. And the consequences will be both individual and national. After this encounter with the religious leaders the die is cast. The cities and leaders of Israel will not believe. From this point onward the kingdom will not be presented as “at hand” or “near.”

Michael Vlach, *He will Reign Forever*, 323.

I. THE KING & THE KINGDOM PRESENTED.
(MATT. 1-10)

II. THE KING & THE KINGDOM REJECTED.
(MATT. 11-12)

III. THE KING & THE KINGDOM POSTPONED.
(MATT. 13-25; LUKE 19)



“11 While they were listening to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because He was near Jerusalem, and they supposed that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately. 12 So He said, “A nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return. 13 And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas and said to them, ‘Do business with this until I come back.’ 14 But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’ 15 When he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves, to whom he had given the money, be called to him so that he might know what business they had done.”

The Parable of the Nobleman - Luke 19

“Is it at this time that you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6)

“Men of Israel... Repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.” (Acts 3:11-21)

“The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.” (Ps. 110:1)

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me again until you say, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Matthew 23:37-39



“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.”

Revelation 11:15

“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His throne... Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”

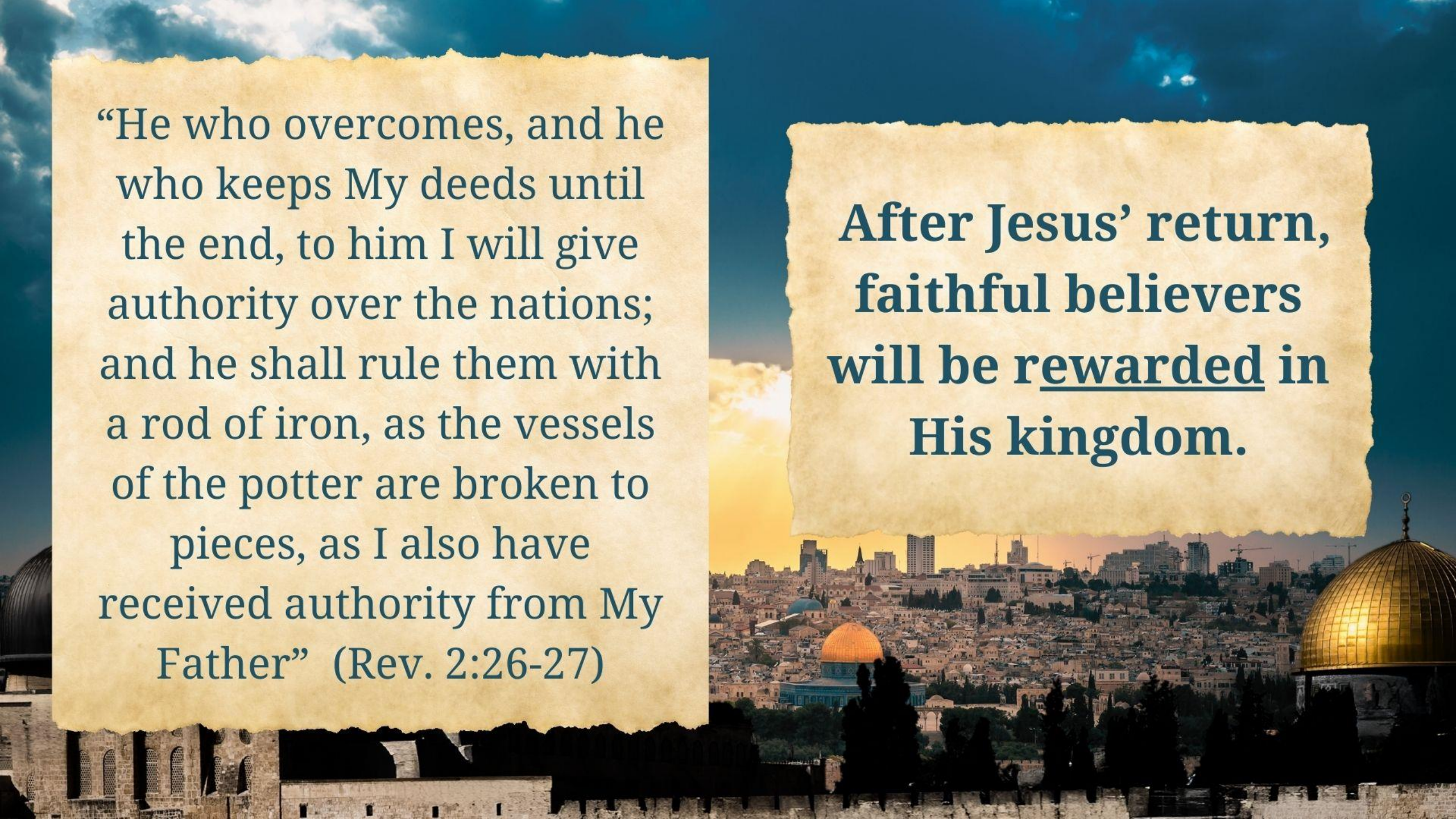
Matthew 25:31

Jerusalem was
desolated again, and
Israel dispersed
again for rejecting
the Messiah.



“He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father” (Rev. 2:26-27)

After Jesus’ return, faithful believers will be rewarded in His kingdom.



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