

THE LORD REIGNS - GOD IS IN CONTROL

(Parua Bay Christian Fellowship - 4/3/90 - EKB)

1. **The Word of God teaches that the Lord reigns.**
Ps 96:10 Say among the nations, "the Lord reigns!" (also *Ps97:1,99:1*)
Ps 103:19 The Lord..... His Kingdom rules over all.
Dan 4 3x says the Most High rules in the kingdom of men.
Eph 1:22 God has put all things under the feet of Jesus Christ and gave Him to be head over all things. (also *Eph 1:11,1Pet 3:22, Mat 28:18*)
2. **God reigns in an ultimate sense, overruling everything, NOW!**
3. **At and after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ God's rule in the earth will be direct, complete and final.**
 - a. Satan will be totally bound, *Rev 20:1-3* (At present the whole world lies under Satan's control, *1Jn 5:19, Eph 2:2, 2Cor 4:4, Jn 14:30.*)
 - b. The Beast, the lawless one, will be destroyed, *Rev 19:20, 2Thes 2:8.*
 - c. God-hating wicked people will be destroyed, *2Thes 1:7-9, Mat 25:41,46.*
 - d. Believers will be raised to meet the Lord, they will be judged for rewards and will inherit the Kingdom of God in all fulness. *2Cor 5:10, Rom 14:10, 1Thes 4:13-18, 1Cor 15:51,52, Lk 14:12-14, 1Cor 3:14, Mat 25:21, Lk 19:17, Rev 20:4-6.*
 - e. Christ will personally reign over all the earth. *Rev 11:15,15:4, Zech 14:1,3,4,9,16, Is 66:23, Rev 20:4-6, Num 14:21.*
 - f. Whole nations will turn to God. *Ps 72:11, Zech 2:11, Zech 8:22, Ezk 38: 23, Ps 86: 9, Mic 4: 1-3, Ps 22:27,28, Rev, 11:15, Rev 15:4.*
4. **At this present time God is ruling in the earth by His delegated authority, the church,** through our prayers, faith, intercession, preaching, obedience to His will, taking authority in Jesus' Name and doing the right thing, by our good works, *Mat 5:16*, evangelism, souls being saved, standing up for righteousness and resisting evil, and by speaking out boldly for righteousness and truth.
5. **The reason why God is not ruling directly Himself in this age** came about in the following way.
 - a. When God created man He gave man delegated authority to rule and govern the earth under Him, *Gen 1:26-28, Ps 8:6, Ps 115:16.*
 - b. In the "fall", *Gen 3:1-7*, man disobeyed God, obeyed Satan's temptation, and chose to live independent from God in a self sufficient way. The nature of man became corrupt, *Eph 4:22*, with self love, self will, self centredness. He lost fellowship with God, became subject to death, *Gen 2:17*. The authority God had given him became transferred to Satan, and Satan became ruler of this world. *Jn 14:30, 12:31, 16:11, 2Cor 4:4, Eph 2:2, 1Jn 5:19.*

6. **However that is not the end of the story because God sent His Son into the world to save the world, *Jn 3:17*.**
 Jesus lived a life of perfect obedience to the will of God. He established the Kingdom of God and His rule in the earth among men. *Mat 3:2, Mat 4:17, Mat 4:23, Mat 9:35, Mat 10:7,8, Mat 12:28*. In His life, death and resurrection Jesus defeated sin, death, hell, Satan, sickness, demons, this evil world system and arose victorious to the throne of God. *Eph 1:19-23, Rev 1:18, Jn 16:33, Heb 2:14, Col 2:15, 1Jn 3:8, 1Pet 2:24, 1Pet 3:18*.
7. **This victory has been given to all those who repent and believe the Gospel, *Mk 1:15*;**
 those who renounce living for self and choose to live to obey Christ; those who enter into, and receive the Kingdom of God, the life, salvation, holiness, power, authority, and victory of Jesus Christ. *Rom 14:17, Rom 5:17, Lk 10:19, Is 54:17, 1Cor 15:57, 2Cor 2:14, Mat 10:7,8, Jn 14:12, Eph 1:22,23*.
8. **So now God is ruling through His Spirit-filled people** who are walking in obedience to His will, standing strong for righteousness, living upright lives, preaching and teaching God's Word and truth, praying, interceding, worshipping, witnessing, submitting to God and resisting the devil, *Jam 4:7*, casting down the enemies' strongholds and seeking first God's Kingdom. *2Cor 10:3-5, Mat 6:33, Rom 5:17, Lk 11:2, Mat 16:18, Jer 1:5,7,8,9,10,18,19, Eph 6:10-19, Rev 12:11*.
9. **In times of "revival"** when believers are seeking God with all their heart, obeying God in all they do, witnessing boldly and powerfully to the unsaved, praying and interceding at all times, moving in faith, power and the Word of God, the Kingdom of God and His rule in the earth is greatly forwarded and increased, *2Chr 7:14*. The rule of God is established in the lives of many people, influencing all they do, and through them many others, *Rom 14:17*.
10. **Recommend:**
- a. **Larry Lea tapes**, (audio and video), on prayer and intercession from New Covenant Fellowship, 75 the Mall, Onehunga. Ph (09) 641 709.
 - b. **Suzette Hattingh tapes**, (audio and video) on prayer and intercession from Manah Ministries, P.O.Box 37-350 Parnell. Auckland Ph (09) 393 798.