

Matthew Series

Lesson #080

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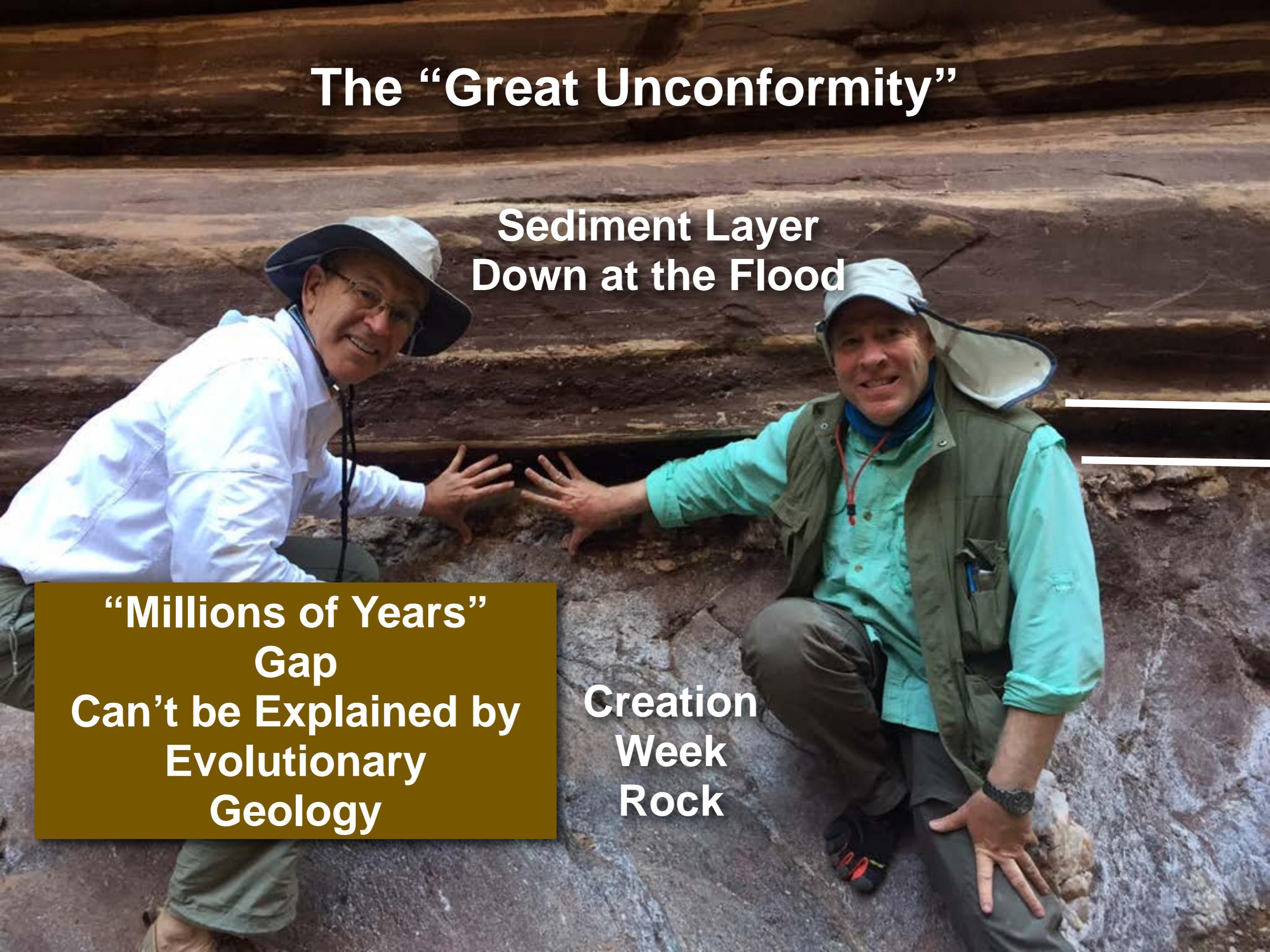
Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



MATTHEW
JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Mysteries of the Kingdom:
The End of History
Matthew 13:47–52

The “Great Unconformity”

A photograph of two men in a geological setting, likely a canyon or gorge, examining rock layers. The man on the left, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark visor, is leaning forward with his hands on a horizontal rock layer. The man on the right, wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt, a green vest, and a light blue cap, is kneeling and pointing towards the same rock layer. They are both smiling. The background shows various sedimentary rock formations with distinct horizontal stratification.

Sediment Layer
Down at the Flood

“Millions of Years”
Gap
Can’t be Explained by
Evolutionary
Geology

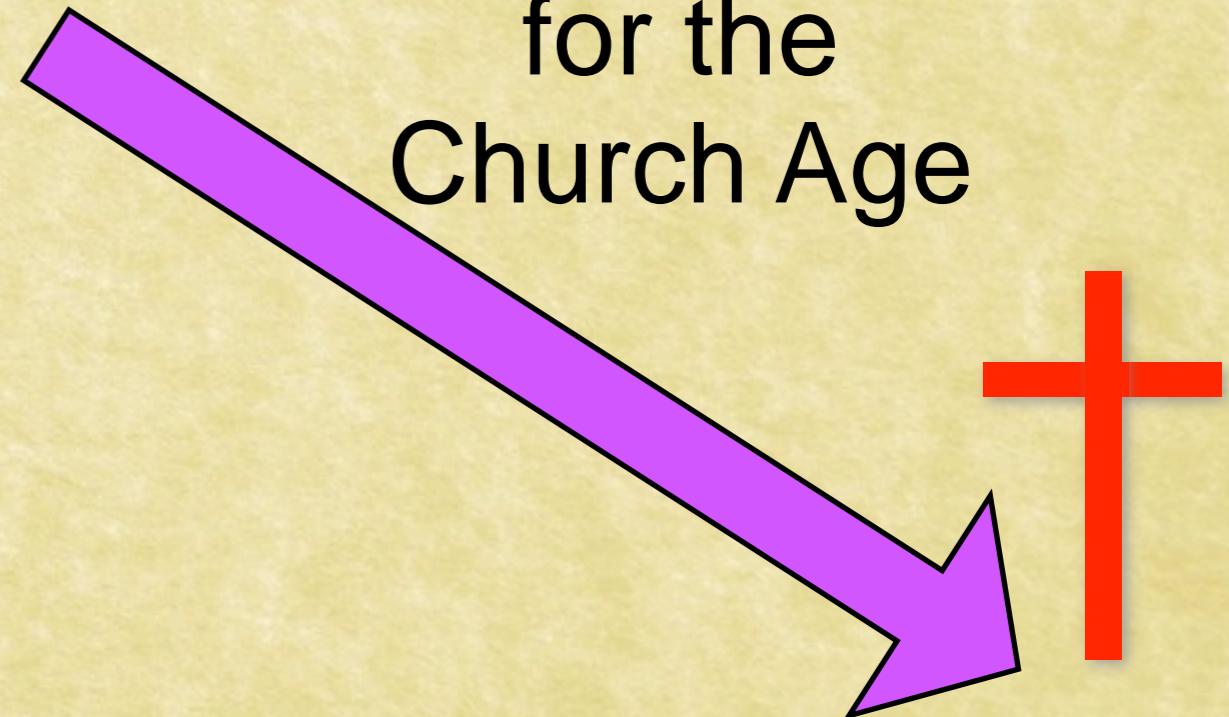
Creation
Week
Rock

Pivot in the Life of Christ

The Offer of
the King and
the Kingdom

The Rejection
of the King
and the
Kingdom

The Training
of the Twelve
for the
Church Age



The Crucifixion, Death, and
Resurrection of the King

Matt. 13:11, “He answered and said to them, ‘Because it has been given to you to know the **mysteries** of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given’.”

μυστήριον *mustērion*

acc neut plur

mystery, secret, a previously unrevealed truth

The “mysteries of the kingdom” describes previously unknown and unrevealed information about the kingdom because it has now been rejected.

1. The parable of the soils; 13:3–9; 19–23
2. The parable of the wheat and the tares; 13:24–30
3. The parable of the mustard seed; 13:31–32
4. The parable of the leaven; 13:33–35

INTERLUDE: 13:36–43

5. The parable of the hidden treasure; 13:44
6. The parable of the pearl of great price; 13:45–46
7. The parable of the dragnet; 13:47–50

INTERLUDE: Have you understood all these things?
13:51

8. The parable of the householder; 13:52

Matt. 13:24, “Another parable He put forth to them, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;’ ”

Matt. 13:31, “Another parable He put forth to them, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field,’ ”

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ὁμοιόω *homoioō*
aor pass indic 3 sing
to make like, compared to,
similar to

ὁμοιος *homoios*
nom fem sing
like, similar

Question:

In what way is “*the kingdom of heaven like*” these descriptions when it seems the kingdom isn’t like these things at all?

“How often have I said to you that when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth?”

~Sherlock Holmes

“Eliminate all other factors, and the one which remains must be the truth.”

~Sherlock Holmes



1. Precisely!

The definition of the kingdom is never altered.

Always a geo-political, Jerusalem-centered dominion, ruled by the Messianic Son of David from a literal throne in Jerusalem.

- Israel is in possession of all of the land designated by the Abrahamic Covenant.
- Israel is regathered from all of the nations.
- Israel is a regenerate nation.
- A new Temple has been rebuilt, and the ritual sacrifices of that Temple are overseen by the Levitical line of the Zadokite priests.
- The Messiah rules on the earth with righteousness and truth.
- Perfect government.
- Unprecedented prosperity, peace, and productivity.
- Portions of the curse have been rolled back.

**Isa. 2:1–4; 4:1–6; 9:6–7; 10:20–22; 11:1–16; 14:1–6; 16:5;
24:23; 43:5–7; 49:13; 51:3–9; 59:21; 61; 62:1–12; 65:25;**

Jer. 30:1–3, 9; 31; 33:14–26;

Ezek. 11:17–20; 16:60–62; 28:25–26; 34:11–31; 39:21–29;

Hos. 3:5; 14:4–8;

Joel 2:28–3:2;

Amos 9:11–15;

Mic. 4:1–8;

Hab. 2:14

Acts 1:6, “Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, ‘Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?’

Acts 1:7, “And He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.’ ”

2. Since Israel at the time of Jesus rejected the King and His offer of the kingdom the Kingdom could not then come into existence.

Therefore it was postponed and the King ascended to heaven to await the Father's awarding of the kingdom. (Dan. 7:12–13 describes when the Father, the Ancient of Days, is given dominion and the kingdom).

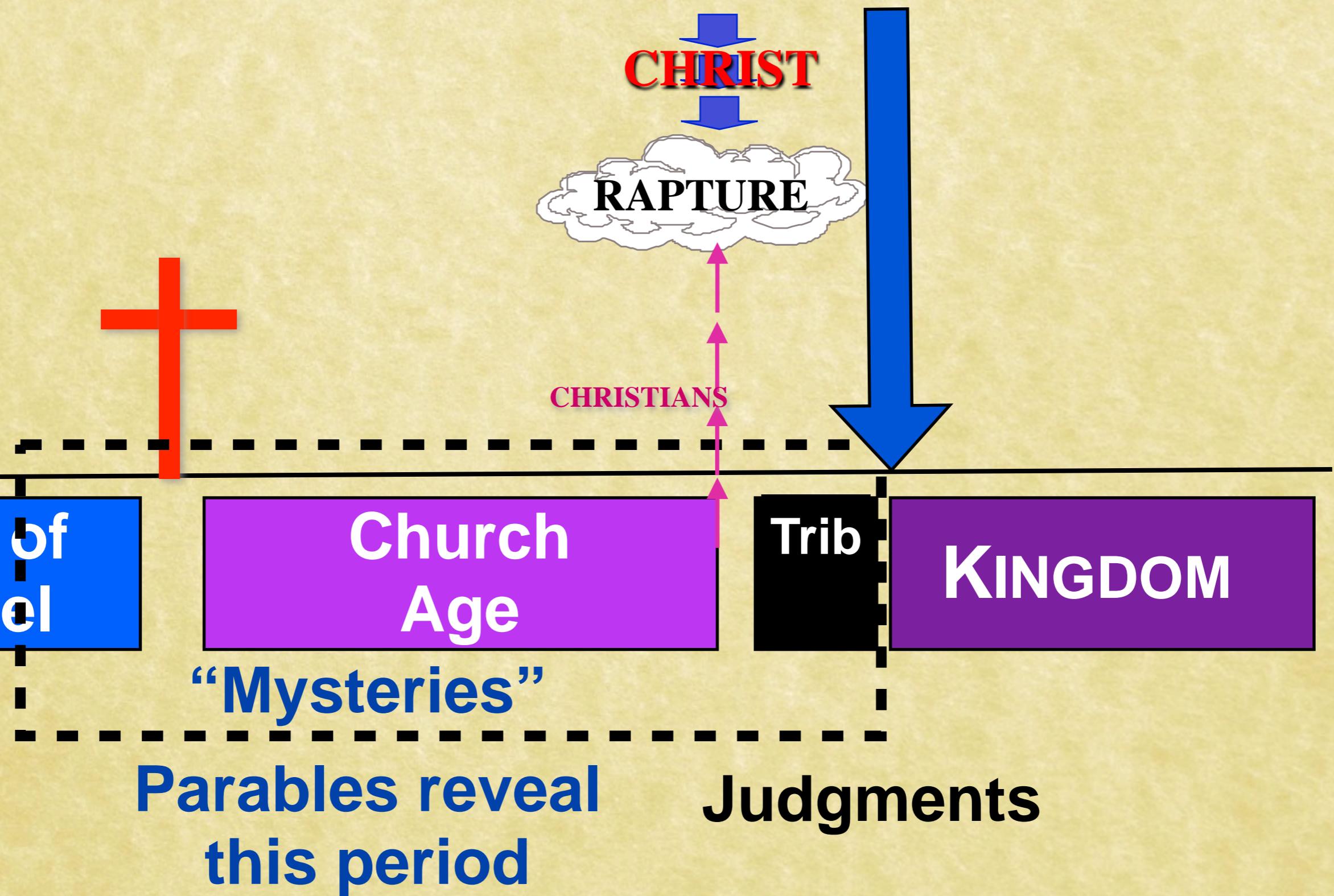
Daniel 7:13, “I was watching in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.

Daniel 7:14, “Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.”

3. Since the kingdom was postponed, an unexpected unannounced intervening age was coming into existence.

TIMELINE

Messiah Receives the Kingdom
Messiah returns



4. The term *mysteries* describes previously unrevealed truth about this intervening age. So Jesus here begins to disclose unrevealed information related to the kingdom.

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“...the very outskirts of the subject already force the conclusion that those mysteries refer not *to the nature* of the kingdom, but *to the manner of its establishment*, the means employed, the preparation for it, *the time* for its manifestation, and such related subjects.

~George N. H. Peters

The Theocratic Kingdom

5. In only one sense could the kingdom be said to exist during this period, and that is that a portion of the people who live during this age will form the nucleus of those who will rule and reign with the King in His Kingdom. As such we are described as the “sons of the kingdom.”

Matt. 13:38.

6. Conclusion:

Major Premise: The Kingdom is a time of unprecedented spiritual and economic perfection when Satan is confined, Rev. 20:1–7.

Minor premise: The Kingdom parables describe a time of positive and negative response when Satan is active.

Conclusion: The parables cannot be describing the character of the kingdom itself, so must be describing the new information related to the postponement and future arrival of the kingdom.

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nom fem sing
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Rev. 20:2–3,
“And he laid hold of the
dragon, the serpent of old,
who is the devil and Satan,
and bound him for a
thousand years, and threw
him into the abyss, and
shut it and sealed it over
him, so that he should not
deceive the nations any
longer, until the thousand
years were completed;
after these things he must
be released for a short
time.”

****The formula “the kingdom of God is like” is an ellipsis of the phrase, “the mystery of the kingdom of God is like” [from v. 11] or “the unrevealed truth relating to the kingdom of God is...”**

Matt. 13:47, “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind,

Matt. 13:48, “which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.

Matt. 13:49, “So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just,

Matt. 13:50, “and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

Matt. 13:39, “The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

Matt. 13:40, “Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.

Matt. 13:41, “The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

Matt. 13:42, “and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

Rev. 10:9, “So I went to the angel and said to him, ‘Give me the little book.’ And he said to me, ‘Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth’.

Rev. 10:10, “Then I took the little book out of the angel’s hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.”

TIMELINE

Messiah Receives the Kingdom
Messiah returns

