

## **My Kingdom is Not of This World**

by Mark Legendre

When questioned by Pilate as to whether or not He was a king, Jesus answered and said "**My kingdom is not of this world: If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence**" (John 18:33-36). Jesus was simply saying that His kingdom was not earthly in nature, for if it was His servants would have fought an earthly battle to keep Him from being arrested by the Jews. The truth is that Jesus had not come to build an earthly kingdom, but rather a "**spiritual kingdom in which mankind could be saved from their sins.**" That is apparent from the fact that it takes a "**spiritual birth**" to enter the kingdom of Christ according to John 3:1-12. After Jesus performed the miracle of feeding 5,000 people in John 6:1-15, some of the Jews wanted to take Jesus and "**force Him to be their king**", but Jesus ran away from them. Why did He do this if He had come to be an earthly king?

Jesus did indeed establish a kingdom when He came to earth, but again it was "**spiritual in nature**", not an earthly kingdom. Colossians 1:13 speaks of how the Colossians had been "**...translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son.**" The teaching that says that Jesus has yet to establish His Kingdom but will do so in the near future is false. When Jesus comes back it will not therefore be to build His kingdom, but to judge all mankind by the word of God! (John 12:48) **ARE YOU A PART OF THE LORD'S KINGDOM TODAY?** If not, then you need to be "born again of the water and the Spirit in order to enter the kingdom of God" (John 3:1-7)