

**The Universal Kingdom of God**  
**Part I**  
**October 16, 2013**

**Definition:**

The sovereign reign of God over all things since the first moment of creation.

James Orr: “There is therefore recognized in Scripture ... a natural and universal kingdom or dominion of God, embracing all objects, persons, and events, all doings of individuals and nations, all operations and changes of nature and history, absolutely without exception ...”

Alva McClain in The Greatness of the Kingdom lists the 7 most important characteristics as:

- 1) It exists without interruption throughout all time – Psalm 145:13**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) It has unlimited scope – I Chron. 29:11-12**
  - a. Covers all places of creation: heaven, earth and even hell (Amos 9:2)
  - b. Nations may rebel against Him ...still “the King of nations” (Jer. 10:7)
  - c. Kings may despise Him ... He removes them (Dan. 2)
  - d. SEE Psalm 103:19. What is the result of this knowledge for the writer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) God’s control in this kingdom is generally exercised through His providence – Psalm 148:8**

God used Assyria and later Babylon as a “rod” in His hand to punish sinful Israel though these pagan kings didn’t acknowledge or consciously serve Yahweh

- a. SEE Isa. 10:5-15
- b. SEE Jer. 25:9
- c. SEE Isa. 44 and 45 re: King Cyrus

- 4) God's control may be exercised at times by supernatural means – Dan. 6:27**
- 5) This Kingdom of God always exists effectively and efficaciously regardless of the attitude of its subjects – Dan. 4:35**
- a. Submissive Subjects
  - b. Non-submissive Subjects
  - c. Yet, Eph. 1:11 still true.
  - d. Even if all angels and all men rebelled ...
- 6) The rule of the Universal Kingdom is administered through the Son – Col. 1:17**
- 7) This Universal Kingdom is not exactly identical with that kingdom we are to pray for. Two different kingdoms or aspects of the one kingdom are involved if we compare Psalm 103:19 with Mat. 6:10**