

SESSION 8: STAGES IN THE REJECTION OF JESUS

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Stage	Feature	Verses
Expectations from Old Testament Prophecy	Suffering servant.	I sa. 52:13-53:12; Ps. 22
	Victorious king.	Ps. 2; Ps. 110; Dan. 7:14; I sa. 9:6-7 (also Luke 1:31-33)
Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom	Kingdom is "at hand."	Mark 1:14-15; Mtt. 3:2; Mtt. 4:17
	What gospel? Death of Jesus not yet understood by apostles.	Mtt. 10:5-7; Mtt. 16:15-22; Luke 9:44-45
	Presented to I srael. ¹	Mtt. 10:5-6; Mtt. 15:24
Public Blasphemous Rejection of Messiah by Religious Leaders	Exorcism of dumb recognized as Messianic work.	Mtt. 12:22
	The Unpardonable Sin (Jesus' work by the Holy Spirit attributed to Satan.)	Mtt. 12:24
	Jesus accused of being demon-possessed!	Mark 3:28-30
Jesus Reveals the Mysteries of the Kingdom	Uses parables to illustrate and <i>hide</i> truth.	Mtt. 13:10-15; Mark 4:11-12; Luke 8:10
	Reveals new information concerning the kingdom.	Mtt. 13:35-36, 51-52, cf. Ps. 78:2
	An intervening age, gradual growth, final harvest.	Mtt. 13:41

¹ This is not to say that righteous Gentiles did not have a part in trusting in Messiah all along (e.g., Mtt. 8:10-11; 9:22).

Stage	Feature	Verses
Presentation as King	Timed according to Daniel's prediction, fulfills prophecy of Zechariah.	Dan. 9:24-26; Zec. 9:9; Luke 19:28-44
	Taught on delay of political kingdom prior to presentation (due to expectations).	Luke 19:11-26
Crucifixion	Jesus' affirmation as "the Christ, the Son of God" considered blasphemous.	Mtt. 26:64 (cf. Dan. 7:13-14)
	Israel chooses <i>Barabbas</i> (the wrong "son of the father").	Mtt. 27:15-26
	God pronounces Jesus innocent by Pilate	Mtt. 27:24
	God identifies Jesus as King by Pilate	John 19:19-22
	Jews undertake a blood curse on themselves and their offspring.	Mtt. 27:25
Political Kingdom Delayed	Awaits fulfillment.	Mtt. 19:28; 25:31; Mark 14:25; Luke 21:31; 22:29-30; Acts 1:6-7; 2Ti. 4:1; Rev. 3:21; Rev. 20:4-6
	Kingdom in mystery form.	John 18:36-37
Church Age	Awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit.	Acts 1:8
	Baptism of Holy Spirit forms the body of Christ, the Church.	Acts 2:4, 38; 8:14; 10:45-46; 11:16; 15:8; 19:6; 1Cor. 12:13