

Dear Brothers in Christ

I have heard a lot of messages in my life time, and I am still hearing messages on a lot of things that seem good. But one message I don't hear a lot of, is the **Kingdom Of God**, and when I do its preached as if it is the church you attend. **The Kingdom Of God** is talked about in a very lightly manner. Most Christians can't tell you the first thing about this subject. I was walking one day at a large flea market, and to my surprise I heard a man preaching away, I stopped to listen to him. As he came to the end of his message, I asked him if he could tell me anything about the **Kingdom of God**. He gave me one of those puzzled looks, and just stood there. So I asked him, what did Jesus talk about for the forty days He was here on earth after His resurrection to His disciples? He gave me that puzzled look again, I said to him, **Jesus didn't talk about His miracles, even though they where many. Jesus didn't talk about His death, and He had just came back from the dead. Jesus didn't talk about His great victory in hell, and that was worth talking about Hallelujah!!!!** But Jesus was more interested in telling His disciples about **The Kingdom Of God**, then anything else. Lets take a look shall we? **Acts 1:1** The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,
2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:
3 To whom also **He shewed Himself alive** after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them , and **speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:** Whoa!!! Where are the sermons on that if you please? Well, I believe I would Like to talk to you about **The Kingdom Of God** , it is in the Word of God many times. Even before the resurrection of Jesus, Jesus talks about **The Kingdom Of God** over and over again. Lets go to a very familiar bible verse in the Word, many of us love to quote all day long, but don't seem to pay very much attention to it in its context. Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Last time I checked first meant first, not second or third. Why do we Say, we except Christ as our Lord and Savior, by saying a prayer? **And yet we don't teach Seek ye first the Kingdom Of God and His Righteousness:** , I am appalled. We hear about church, we hear about living a saved life, but what about first things first, maybe Jesus didn't mean what He said, **I think not**. I believe Jesus meant exactly what He said . **seek, search out, look for, go after the Kingdom Of God first and His Righteousness;** and all these things shall be added unto you. Lets look at some **Kingdom Of God** verses And then we will get into **His righteousness** ok lets go. **Matthew 3: 1-2** says
1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand**. Repent in Greek and Hebrew, is Metanoeo, which **means to change your mind**. **Somebody needs to change their mind about how they live, somebody needs to change their mind about how they think**. **Somebody needs to change their minds about what they believe, and who they are going to follow. Is it going to be this world, or is it going to be Christ?** Are you going to Follow a man without making sure he himself is following Christ? Paul said, follow me **as I follow Christ**, Paul also said, they gave **themselves first to Christ and then to us**, You should not ask anybody to follow you if you yourself aren't fully following Christ yourself. **I'm not talking about trying to follow Christ, I'm talking about fully and consciously and Intentionally following Christ 24 / 7**. And we certainly should not ask any body to give themselves to us **if we don't ask them to give themselves to Christ first, God is a jealous God**. Well Matthew 3: 1-2 was John speaking so lets see what Jesus

has to say about the **Kingdom Of God.** Matthew 4:17 From that time **Jesus** began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.** Lets look at The book of **Mark 1 :14-15** 14 Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus** came into Galilee, preaching **the gospel of the kingdom of God,** 15 And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

Now **Jesus** says repent for the **Kingdom Of Heaven** is at hand, well heaven is God's too so The Kingdom Of God is the Kingdom Of Heaven, any way you want to look at it, it belongs to God. Now look here, **Jesus** came into Galilee preaching **the Gospel of the Kingdom Of God,** what, come again, the Gospel Of The kingdom Of God? Then **Jesus** said the time is fulfilled and the **Kingdom Of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.** So the **Kingdom Of God is at hand.** What do I do, number 1 **repent change your mind,** number 2 **believe the gospel.** Well you might say what is the gospel I am suppose to believe in, **Grace the finished works of the Cross of Jesus Christ.** Well lets look at more scriptures shall we? **Mark 4:10** And when he was alone, they that

were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. 11 And he said unto them, **Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the Kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:** Mar k 9:1 And he said unto them, **Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.** Mark 10:14 But when **Jesus** saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, **Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God.**

15 **Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.** Luke 4:43 And he said unto them, **I must preach the Kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent. Luke 8:1** And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and showing the glad tidings of **the Kingdom of God:** and the twelve were with him, 2 and certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, **Matthew 12:27-28** 27 **And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.** Well how **hard** is it to get into the Kingdom of God? I'm glad you asked. Lets see what the Word says about it ok. **Acts 14:21-22** And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, And to Iconium, and Antioch, 22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that **we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.** **Matthew 7: 13-14** 13 **Enter ye in at the strait gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.** 1 **John 2:15-17** 15 **Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.** 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, **is not of the Father,** but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: **but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

Matthew 5:10-12 10 **Blessed are** they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is **the kingdom of heaven.** 11 **Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.** 12 **Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:** for great is your reward in heaven:

for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. It don't sound like the **Kingdom of God is a easy place to enter into.** The Kingdom of God is to **be sought out, searched out, looked for, and gone after** in order to enter in at the strait but narrow gate.

So what Isn't the Kingdom of God, I'm glad you asked? **Luke 12:15** And he said unto them, **Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.** **1 Corinthians 4:20** For the kingdom of God **is not in word, but in power.** **Romans 14:16-17** 16 Let not then your good be evil spoken of: 17 For the kingdom of God **is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.** So we can see, the Kingdom of God has nothing to do with our flesh, the natural man, or our intellect. The **Kingdom of God is Power,** the

Kingdom of God is Righteousness, Peace, and Joy in the Holy Ghost. Don't that sound familiar? Seek ye first the **Kingdom of God and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.** So where do I start to look for the **Kingdom of God.** Remember I told you, you can't find the kingdom in the natural realm. **Romans 8:5-9** Says 5 For they that are **after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.** 6 For to be carnally minded **is death;** but to be **spiritually minded is life and peace.** 7 Because the **carnal mind is enmity against God:** for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 **So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.** 9 **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit,** if so be that **the Spirit of God dwell in you.** Now if any man have not the **Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.** The answer to our question is found in the above scripture, but we can make it even clearer. Lets look at **Luke 17:20-21** 20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, **The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:** 21 **Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.** Well Jesus's prayer in **John 17:11, 20-24** 11 **And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.** 20 **Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;** 21 **That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.** 22 **And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:** 23 **I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.**

Lets look at one more place **John 15:3-7** 3 **Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.** 4 **Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.** 5 **I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.** 6 **If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.** 7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.** The word says, **Jesus is in me, and I am in Jesus, and Jesus is in God.**

The kingdom of God is in a realm and a dimension not known to man in the natural. And never will be known to men in the natural. **That which is flesh is flesh,** and that which is **spirit is spirit.** Oh yeah, I just remembered, that **God is a Spirit** and they that worship God **must worship Him in spirit an in truth.** Wow!!! **We really need God and The Holy Spirit in our search for the Kingdom of God that is within us.** Know wonder we have missed it for so long, we have been looking in the wrong place all this time. I do have one more, my favorite, **Colossians 3:1-4**

1 If ye then **be risen with Christ**, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 **Set your affection on things above**, not on things on the earth. 3 **For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.** 4 **When Christ, who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory. Wow!!!! I love the Kingdom of God, **I die to myself and become alive in Christ Hallelujah!!!!** Wait one minute I just remembered how I died in Christ, listen. **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.** Oh how I love Jesus so I can't Help but to seek out and search out the Kingdom of God for myself. So we know our search must begin in the spiritual realm, not the natural one that we see every day. I must really seek God for the secret narrow gate most people never find, which is the entrance to the Kingdom of God. I encourage you to not only enter in at the narrow gate, but explore all of God's wonderful dimensions in the Kingdom of God. I think of dimensions and levels, as rooms in a home. When I go into someone's home entering in at the door, the first room is not the whole house. It is the beginning of what I can imagine the rest of the house must look like, but I can't be sure of what I think, unless I go thru the house, and see what at one time I was just imagining. You do not have to imagine you can enter in boldly, because the price has been paid, **Hallelujah!!!!** Explore, and find your place in God by knowing who you are in Christ. Its not a natural place or a realm one stumbles into. I said it before and I will said it again, Being in Christ is like Adam and Eve being in the garden, or like Noah and his family being in the ark . But we have a much more better and secure location in Christ then they could have ever had. **Christ is in me and I am in Christ**, how can you explain that, it unexplainable. Its something that has to be believed, not explained. Its something that has to be experienced not just talked about, It is a place one must go, not just a place to imagine. Being in Christ is the beginning of entering that strait but narrow gate. There are many rooms, levels, and dimensions in Him, fear lest you fall short of entering in. Lord help us not to fall short in our search for You, to enter into our rest which is in Christ Himself. Thank You Lord God for Christ Jesus, and the finished works of the cross just for me and the whole world if they will believe. Well I know I said I wanted to talk about His Righteousness but that will have to come in part two, believe me it is coming.

Peace out, yours in Christ, one of God's sons G B