

Thy Kingdom Come - What on Earth is the Kingdom? Undated, unsure if this was ever shared with SCF*

Matthew 6 verse 9-11

"Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name. 10 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 'Give us this day our daily bread.

Jesus said we were to pray like this. The kingdom of God or the kingdom of heaven, (they are the same kingdom) are mentioned in the Gospels over a hundred times; 51 times in Matthew, 14 times in Mark, 39 times in Luke and 5 times in John. We are called to be citizens of the kingdom, a kingdom with a King. Jesus is the King and we are His subjects. We have seen that Jesus is the Son of God who was predicted to come in the Old Testament long before His birth and that He came to be God on earth.

Romans 8 verse 29-30

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; 30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

He was the forerunner of the Kingdom of heaven. What on earth is the kingdom of God? It is the people of God that live under the rule and authority of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Lets look at the three aspects of kingdom life.

Righteousness.

This word literally means to be innocent, innocent before a holy God. We become innocent by and through the blood of Jesus Christ who took all of our sin and all of our judgment upon himself. We have no righteousness of our own, it is only in Him that we are righteous before God. We are called righteously, without sin; we have the Holy Spirit of God available to guide us as we walk our daily lives.

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The Lord's prayer commands us to ask for and receive the daily portion of *bread*; as the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, then it means that we are to live by the bread of life.

Matthew 4 verse 3-4

And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." 4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"

Jesus was dealing with the devil who was trying to tempt Him to disobey His Father.

John 6 verse 26-33

26 Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal." 28 Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent." 30 So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.'" 32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world."

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Although this discussion had followed the miracle of the feeding of the 5000, the disciples were still seeking a sign from Him. Jesus then speaks of the bread of life and His words speak clearly to us of the daily bread that we need to live on.

John 6 verse 63-64

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him.

We see that the words which Jesus gives to us is the food of righteousness, Himself. We sing the words *He is all my righteousness, I stand complete in Him and worship Him. We have Come into His House* by Bruce Ballinger. He is the King of the Kingdom. What else does the scripture tell us about righteousness?

Proverbs 10 verse 2

Ill-gotten gains do not profit, but righteousness delivers from death.

Proverbs 10 verse 6

Blessings are on the head of the righteous, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Proverbs 10 verse 11

The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

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