

Why must we seek the Kingdom of God above everything else in this life?

Lamentations 3:25: "The LORD *is* good to those who wait for Him, to the soul *who* seeks Him."

Psalm 14:2: "The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God."

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Psalm 9:10: "Those who know Your Name trust in You, for You, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek You."

### Therefore:

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Our only secure source of knowledge being:

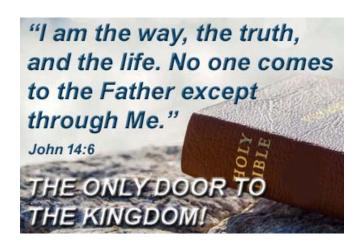
Psalm 119:105: "Your Word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

The reason Jesus said:

Matthew 11:28-29: "Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

John 17:17: "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth."

Is the focus of my life to seek the Kingdom of God above all else, so as to follow Christ at His Word?



Obviously, the one and only door to the Kingdom of God is Christ. As such, how is that laid out in the Word of God?

John 3:3: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

John 10:9: "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved."

John 17:3: "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

Why?

2Corinthians 5:21: "For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Ephesians 2:18: "For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."

The reason Jesus warned us:

Matthew 7:13: "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction."

Therefore:

Acts 4:12: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." Have I sincerely and truthfully entered by the door of the Kingdom of God, Christ Jesus, the way, the truth and the life?

Do I understand the importance of leaving the world behind, so as to enter the Kingdom of God through Christ Jesus?



How clearly does the Word of God commands us to seek God above and beyond anything or anyone in this life?

1Chronicles 22:19: "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God."

1Chronicles 16:11: "Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore!"

Matthew 22:37: "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." Matthew 6:9-10: "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven."

Why?

Psalm 103:19: "The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all."

How is this accomplished?

Jeremiah 9:23-24: "Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I *am* the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD." Colossians 3:2: "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

Therefore:

Proverbs 8:17: "I love those who love Me, and those who seek Me diligently will find Me."

Is the Word of God clear enough for me?

# THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## "The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all."

Psalm 103:19

How does the Bible compare the Kingdom of God?

Matthew 13:44: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13:45-46: "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

Romans 14:17: "The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Luke 17:20-21: "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Therefore:

Matthew 5:10: "Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:3: "Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Why?

1Corinthians 4:20: "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power."

The reason Jesus said:

John 3:5: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Have I abandoned the kingdoms of this world, to enter the Kingdom of God in Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit?



How does the Bible define how we must seek the Kingdom of God? Psalm 1:1-3: "Blessed *is* the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper."

Colossians 3:1-2: "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

Hebrews 12:1-2: "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith." Therefore:

James 4:8: "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." The reason why:

2Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Do I truly and earnestly seek the Lord to live and abide by His Word?



What is the core element necessary to believe in, live by and abide in Christ?

Hebrews 11:6: "Without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

What is faith?

Hebrews 11:1: "Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

As such Jesus said:

John 14:1: "You believe in God, believe also in Me."

The purpose:

1Peter 1:8-9: "Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls."

How do we build our faith?

Romans 10:17: "So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Therefore:

1John 5:4: "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith."

What's more?

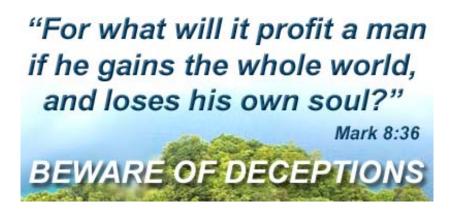
1Corinthians 2:5: "Your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

1Corinthians 16:13: "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong."

Whv?

Romans 1:17: "As it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Do I understand and acknowledge the power of faith, so as to believe in God and Christ, and live day by day in seeking the Kingdom of God?



Why must we avoid the deceptions of the world?

Romans 8:13: "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

Matthew 5:20: "For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven."

James 4:4: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

#### As such:

Matthew 13:22: "Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the Word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word, and he becomes unfruitful."

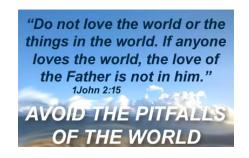
#### Therefore:

Isaiah 55:6-7: "Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him."

The reason Jesus declared:

Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other."

Am I steadfast in living for Christ and abide by His Word, so I am not drawn and deceived by the lusts of the world?



How does the Word describe the pitfalls of the enemy that we must avoid?

The love of money:

Matthew 6:19: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal."

Why?

Luke 18:24: How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

Fleshly Lusts:

1Peter 2:11: "Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul."

Why?

Galatians 5:24: "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

Pride:

Luke 14:11: "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Why?

Proverbs 16:5: "Everyone proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD.

Finally:

1Corinthians 6:9-10: "Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

Therefore:

Colossians 3:5: "Put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

Do I belong to Christ Jesus, and faithfully follow Him as Lord, into the Kingdom of God?

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