

“Seeking First the Kingdom of Heaven” 5/09/10

Matthew 11:1-15

Kingdom of Heaven (God)- the rule or reign of Jesus over the universe, but most specifically in the hearts of those who believe and follow Him. Believers belong and live in this realm.

"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son" (Colossians 1:13 NASB)

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33 NASB)

Luke 3:7; Matthew 3:7-12 John the Baptist preached a Jesus who came with FIRE.

POINT 1- Seeking first His kingdom requires us to understand its MYSTERY

- A. The mystery of God’s kingdom can sometimes result in DOUBT
(Difficult circumstances; incomplete understanding or expectations)

John 6:68-69... where can we go? you have the words of eternal life

*"Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped."
(Isaiah 35:5; also 29:18-19)*

" The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1)

- B. The mystery of God’s kingdom should also result in us being BLESSED
(James 1:2-12; Philippians 4:4-6; “not my will, but yours be done”)

Going God wants us to seek after Him with obedience and no wavering!
Deeper

POINT 2- Seeking first His kingdom requires us to understand its FOLLOWERS

- A. The followers of Jesus in the kingdom have certain CHARACTERISTICS
(conviction; self-denial, Luke 9:23-34; purpose and calling, Rom 8:28)

- B. The followers of Jesus in the kingdom are SET FREE
(from sin, John 8:32-36; Rom 6:18; fear, John 14:1; **Micah 2:12-13**)

"Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives." (Heb 2:14-15)

Going God wants us our hope in Him to bring us confidence!
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