



THE UNPREACHED GOSPEL

THE UNPREACHED GOSPEL: THE DEMAND OF THE KINGDOM

OG QUESTIONS: How does one enter into this experience? What demand does God's Kingdom lay upon us? How does one receive this life? How is the righteousness of the Kingdom to be obtained?

"Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household"
(Acts 16:31 NLT).

"But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name"
(John 20:31 NLT).

OG QUESTION: What does it mean to confess the Lord or to believe in His Name?

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9 NLT).

The question we be truly wrestling with this whole series can be summed up in understanding one word - LORDSHIP

When a person yields to the lordship of Jesus Christ, **he or she acknowledges His ownership and gives up his or her personal rights.** Yielding to the lordship of Jesus Christ also involves total and unreserved obedience. If He is the Lord of your life, you are going to do what He tells you to do. - Dr. Roger D Willmore

OG QUESTION: What evidence do you see of Christ's Lordship in your life? What areas might need to still come under the Lordship of Jesus?

Last week when P Lori shared about RIGHTEOUSNESS; we learned that we cant possibly live the way we are called to live in the Kingdom of God. It is not something we can DO but RATHER what we BECOME in Jesus. Which is why Jesus gives us HIS GRACE to live according to HIS WAYS.

Some here have been concerned as to whether or not you're even saved. Everyone take a deep breath and know it's a process... turn to your neighbor and say you are in process. Turn to your other neighbor and say... just keep making progress!

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns" (Philippians 1:6 NLT).



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We are trying to make sure we preach the whole truth and nothing but the truth on the Kingdom of God. If you just read portions of Paul's letters or even the gospels, you might conclude that the Kingdom of Heaven is entered making a public confession of I follow Jesus. Let me ask you a question... if you are following Jesus does that mean he's LORD?

Lots of people were around Jesus all the time. The Pharisees were watching Him. And everyone of us at one point started by getting around him. At that point we came to "SEE" who this Jesus was and what he was all about.

Then you can make a confession that I am going to follow Jesus and follow him for years and yet He is still not LORD. Remember Mark pointed out Judas. Jesus was just a Rabbi in the eyes of Judas not LORD!

And yet many were following Jesus and many of you here made a genuine decision to FOLLOW Jesus. To leave the old behind and begin to learn how to walk in this new life. But remember it's a process - you probably aren't following Jesus perfectly.

Why? Because In Christ, the kingdom now confronts us. The life of the AGE to come stands before us.

Jesus' message was, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." The Kingdom requires a DECISION. It is simple yet difficult.

We now know the truth, and this truth wants to set us free, but we have to walk out this truth. It's decision time. Will I listen and obey?

Repentance is to turn around, to reverse the course of life, to change the whole direction of action, to turn and to embrace in decision the Kingdom of God.

The Cost of Following Jesus Luke 9: 57-62 NLT

⁵⁷ "As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ But Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head."

⁵⁹ He said to another person, "Come, follow me."

The man agreed, but he said, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father."

⁶⁰ But Jesus told him, "Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family."

⁶² But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."



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"If you respond to the Kingdom of God and its claims upon your life, there must be no hesitation, no looking back. One cannot try to hold on to what he has left behind him. One cannot cling to the past. There must be no uncertainty as to whether one is prepared to go all the way...The Kingdom of God demands a resolute decision, an irrevocable decision, a clean-cut decision." (Ladd)

OG Question: Describe the moment when you made a resolute decision for your desire or intention to follow Jesus.

"The demand of the Kingdom is still a costly decision. If wealth, position, influence, or ambition command a man's loyalty so that his life is directed to the attainment of personal ends, whether material or social, rather than the glory of God, his life must have a new center of orientation. Every other interest must become secondary and subservient to the rule of God." (Quote Ladd)

OG Question: Is there anything you feel may be holding you back from complete obedience to the Lord? If so pray right now for the Lord to give you strength to surrender that area of your life to Him.

OG Going Deeper: Look up each of these passage and share what they mean and how you live this out in your walk with the Lord.

It requires self-denial.

John 17: 3, 15-19; 20-26 NLT

Galatians 2:20 NIV

Romans 12:1-2 NIV

Justification - Sanctification - Glorification

1 corinthians 15:1-2 NIV

"The Kingdom demands decision as it confronts men - eternal decision. Tomorrow has met today. The Age to Come has entered This Age. The Life of tomorrow is offered to us in the here and now...What are we to do? One thing. Repent! Turn around, and receive the Good News. Surrender to its rule. This is the demand of the Kingdom." (Quote Ladd)