

# **“THEIR’S IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN”**

## **INTRODUCTION**

- I. When Jesus was on earth, he said MUCH about “the kingdom of heaven.”
  - A. He was baptized, and tempted in the wilderness, He began to PREACH that the kingdom of heaven was “at hand”, or about to come into existence. Matt. 4:17
    1. As the Sermon on the Mount (recorded in Matthew 5-7), He referred **to** the “kingdom” some 8 times, that would soon come into existence.
    2. In the O.T., it had been prophesied that the Messiah (as king and High priest) would build that temple, or kingdom of God. Zech. 6:12-13
      - a. The first recorded words of Jesus as recorded by Matthew, are in the very first sentence **OF** the sermon, that the “kingdom of heaven” would for the “poor in spirit.” Matt. 5:3
      - b. That statement, “their’s is the kingdom” is used a second time in verse 10.
      - c. The kingdom is called “the kingdom of heaven” or the “kingdom of God.”
  - B. Now, the kingdom would be a territory where people would be subjects who would be under the rule and authority of a King, CHRIST Himself.
- II. Question: WHO WOULD BE SUBJECTS IN THIS KINGDOM?

## **I. 1<sup>st</sup>, the SUBJECTS of the kingdom would be those BORN AGAIN.**

- A. Jesus explained this to Nicodemus later, as recorded in John 3:1-7. (Explain)
  1. The new birth would be the result of the **seed** that the Holy Spirit would reveal in the N.T. as God’s word. Luke 8:11; 1 Cor. 4:15; Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:22-25
  2. The new birth would be completed in the element of “water”, or **baptism** (immersion), as baptism requires water. John 3:5, 23
- B. The term “born again” is used loosely in the religious world, to describe some who have become religious, or have changed their lives, but NOT in the way it is used in the N.T.

## **II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, the SUBJECTS of the kingdom would be the RIGHTEOUS ONES.**

- A. The “righteous ones” are those who have been **made** righteous BY the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God.
  1. Before being made righteous, all are in a state of “unrighteousness.” Rom. 3:20-23
  2. Then, in obedience, some are **made** “righteous.” Rom. 5:19; 1:16; 10:1-4; 6:1-6, 20
- B. “Righteousness” is the state of **salvation** from sin, by the blood of Jesus. John 1:29; Matt. 26:28; Rev. 1:5

## **III. 3<sup>rd</sup>, the SUBJECTS of the kingdom would be those who PRACTICE RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

- A. Some in the early days of the kingdom became righteous, but soon returned to the practice of “unrighteousness”, and were told that THEY would NOT inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Cor. 6:9-11
- B. The word “inheritance” alludes to the **eternal phase** of the kingdom.
  1. On earth, the righteous are in the “earthly” fellowship with God—IN THE KINGDOM. Col. 1:13-14
  2. The “inheritance” of the kingdom of God, mentioned in 1 Cor. 6:9, alludes to the eternal phase of the kingdom, that the righteous shall eventually enter when the Lord returns at the end of the world. 1 Cor.15:23-24; Matt. 25:34

**CONCLUSION**

- I. So, “their’s is the kingdom” refers to those who are “poor in spirit”, become obedient and are “persecuted for righteousness’ sake” if necessary.
- II. Have YOU made the necessary “preparation” to meet the Lord.
  - A. If not yet saved, you can be saved today. Mark 16:16
  - B. If you have lost your inheritance, because you have returned to unrighteousness, it CAN be restored to you by repentance and prayer. Acts 8:22
- III. The invitation is yours—right now—as we stand together and sin, for your encouragement.

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