

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6)

- Matthew 6:9-13
 - After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven,
 Hallowed be thy name.
 - Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
 - Give us this day our daily bread.
 - And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Luke 6:20-26

- And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, **Blessed** be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.
- Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh.
- **Blessed** are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.
- Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.
- But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.
- Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.
- Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

4 x "Blessed" (Luke 6:20-23)

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What is a Kingdom?

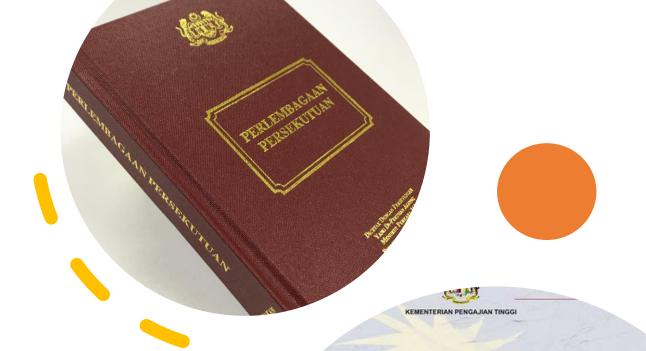




Malaysia

Constitutional monarchy

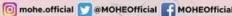
- Rukun Negara
 - National Principles
- Keluhuran Perlembagaan
 - Supremacy of the Constitution



Rukun Negara

Kepercayaan Kepada Tuhan Kesetiaan Kepada Raja dan Negara Keluhuran Perlembagaan **Kedaulatan Undang-undang** Kesopanan dan Kesusilaan









Is a kingdom just a place?

- John 18:36
 - "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."
- The Kingdom of God is not the same as a kingdom in this world
 - Not referring to a country
 - Not referring to a geographical location



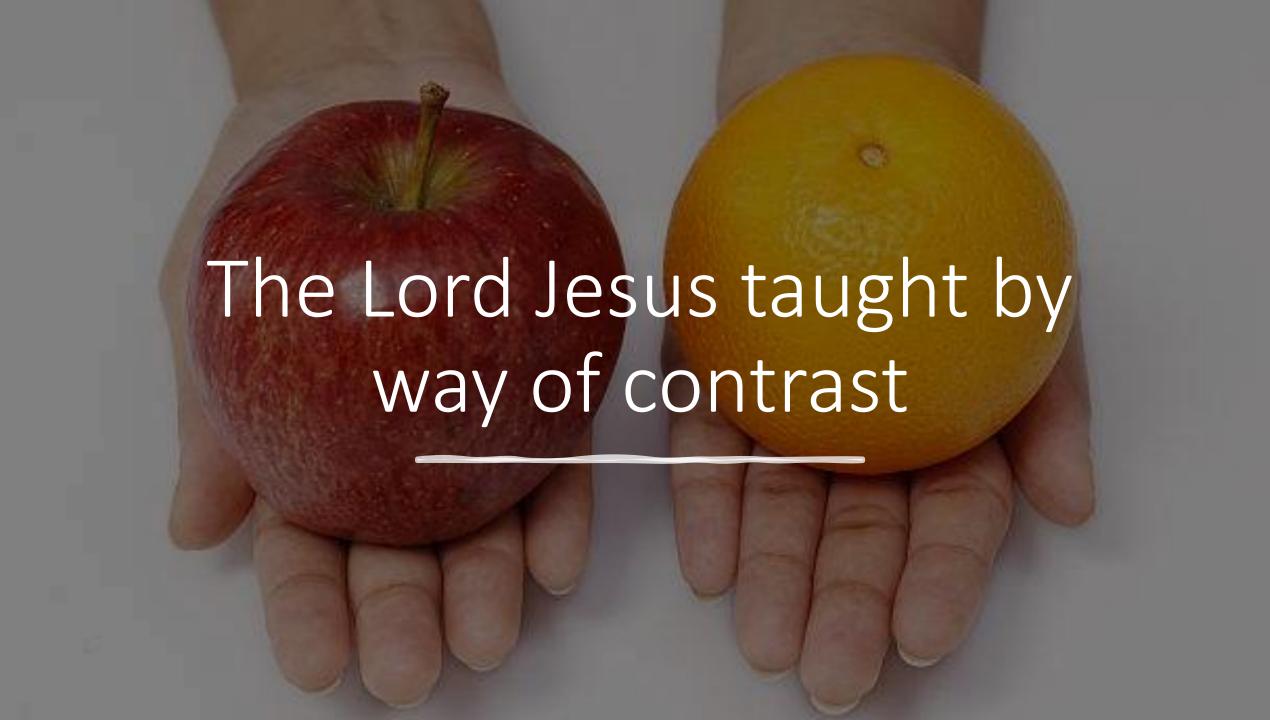


 State of being ruled over by a King Reign of a King Kingdom of God God's authority God's rule God's way of life God's will God's priority

- Thy **Kingdom** Come
 - The Absence of God's Kingdom
- Thy Kingdom Come
 - The Attributes of God's Kingdom
- Thy Kingdom Come
 - The Arrival of God's Kingdom

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The Absence of God's Kingdom







What the kingdom of God is not

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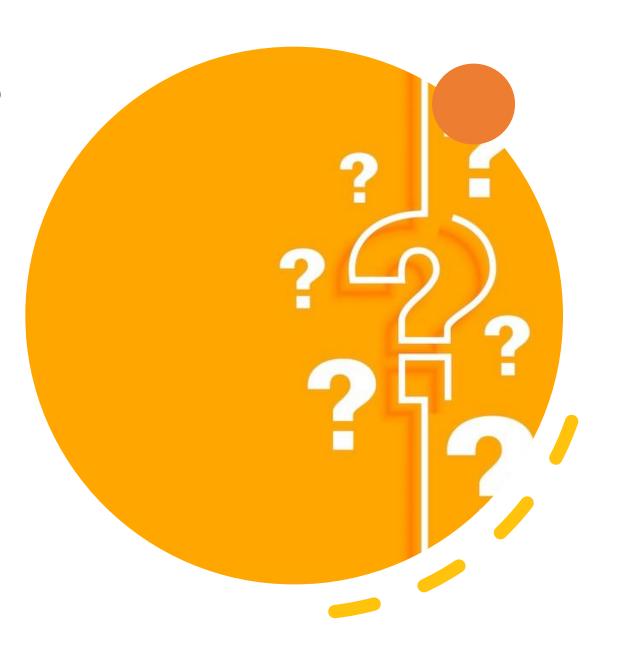
Woe to you when things are going well in your life?



Woe to you when things are going well in your life?

Not quite what the Lord Jesus is saying

 Woe to you when these things are your <u>priorities</u>



What the kingdom of God is not

- Priorities of the kingdom of this world
 - Power "woe unto you that are rich"
 - Material comfort "Woe unto you that are <u>full</u>"
 - Success "Woe unto you that laugh"
 - Recognition "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you!"

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 - Greek word for "gloat"
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- Not inherently bad
- "Gloat" is key

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- People who make these things their kingdom
 - Their ordering principle
 - Their rule of life
 - Their operating system

The Kingdom of this World

- These are the things they are after
 - Everything else has to serve them
 - Who they spend their time with
 - Who are their friends
 - Where do you live
 - How do you spend your time
 - Who do you date



If the main things in my life are these things

- If everything I do has to do with:
 - Power
 - Material comfort
 - Success
 - Recognition
- Then these things are my masters the kingdom of this world
 - The Lord Jesus is saying "Woe to you"

Woe to you

- The Lord Jesus
 - Not curse
 - "I am so sorry for you"
 - "Alas for you"



- If you work for only material wealth and you get wealth
- If you work for only material recognition and you get recognition
 - Alas for you!
 - How terrible for you!

Woe to you



- Why?
 - But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.
 - You who are rich, you have received your comfort

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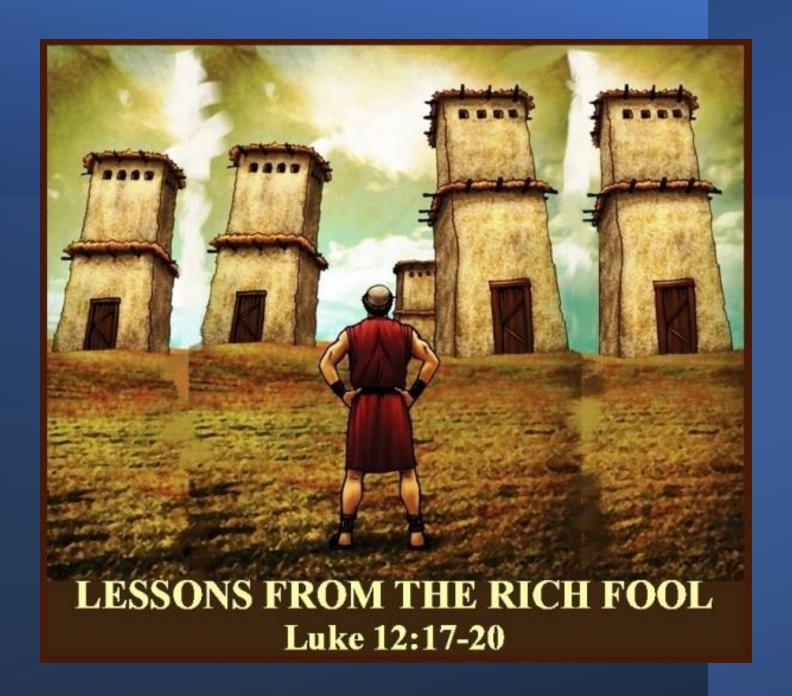


- Why?
 - But woe unto you that are rich! for **ye have received your consolation**.
 - You who are rich, you have received your comfort
 - If these things are your main goal, if these things are your priorities
 - Then you have received your comfort you will ever get
 - The deeper stuff, the more important stuff, you will never get

Woe to you

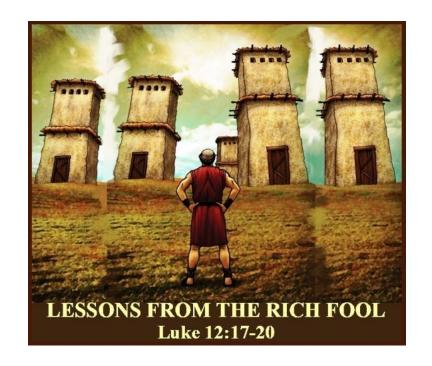


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 - You who are rich, you have received your comfort
 - If these things are your main goal, if these things are your priorities
 - Then you have received your comfort you will ever get
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- It is a purely material pursuit
 - No **spiritual** value



Luke 12:16-21

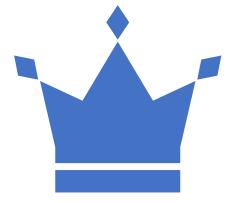
- And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
- And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
- And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
- And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.
- But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
- So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.



Woe unto you who does not live in the kingdom of God

- If you live in the kingdom of anything else but God
 - Distorts your life

But the worst thing God can do to you is to let you have it



King Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:1-6)

- "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.
- Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,
- I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.
- And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,
- Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.
- And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake."



- 2 Kings 20:21
 - "And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and <u>Manasseh</u> his son reigned in his stead."

- Manasseh
 - One of the most evil kings in Judah
 - Undid all the good his father had done
 - Brought pagan idols and placed them in the temple in Jerusalem
 - Sacrificed his sons to pagan gods

King Manasseh

- 2 Kings 21:1
 - "Manasseh was <u>twelve years old</u> when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah."

King Manasseh

- 12 years old
- His father died, 15 years late
 - Mrs. Hezekiah either had a very long pregnancy
 - Or Manasseh should never have been



King Manasseh

- 12 years old
- His father died, 15 years late
 - Mrs. Hezekiah either had a very long pregnancy
 - Or Manasseh should never have been
- When Hezekiah was told he was going to die
 - Did not just feel he was dying prematurely
 - But there was no heir to the throne
 - God says I will give you 15 years
 - 3 years later must have been thrilled, cute baby boy But turned out to be a monster
 - Manasseh was dramatically converted towards the end of his life
 - One of the greatest OT conversions but too late to stop what he had set in motion





We can insist on our own way with God and God may give it to us

But we will reap the consequences

Thy Kingdom Come

The Absence of God's Kingdom

Thy Kingdom Come

The Attributes of God's Kingdom



What the kingdom of God is

4 x "Blessed" (Luke 6:20-23)

- Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.
- Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled.
- Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh.
- Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Blessedness of the kingdom



- The Poor "Blessed be ye poor"
- The Weak "Blessed are ye that hunger now"
- The **Grieving** "Blessed are ye that weep now"
- The Excluded "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you"

Blessedness of the kingdom

 At face value, it feels like the Lord Jesus is saying in order for you to have the blessedness of the kingdom, you have to seek these things



- Seek poverty?
- Seek weakness?
- Seek to be grieved?
- Seek to be excluded?

Blessedness of the kingdom

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- Seek poverty?
- Seek weakness?
- Seek to be grieved?
- Seek to be excluded?
- But that is not what the Lord is teaching

How do we interpret this?



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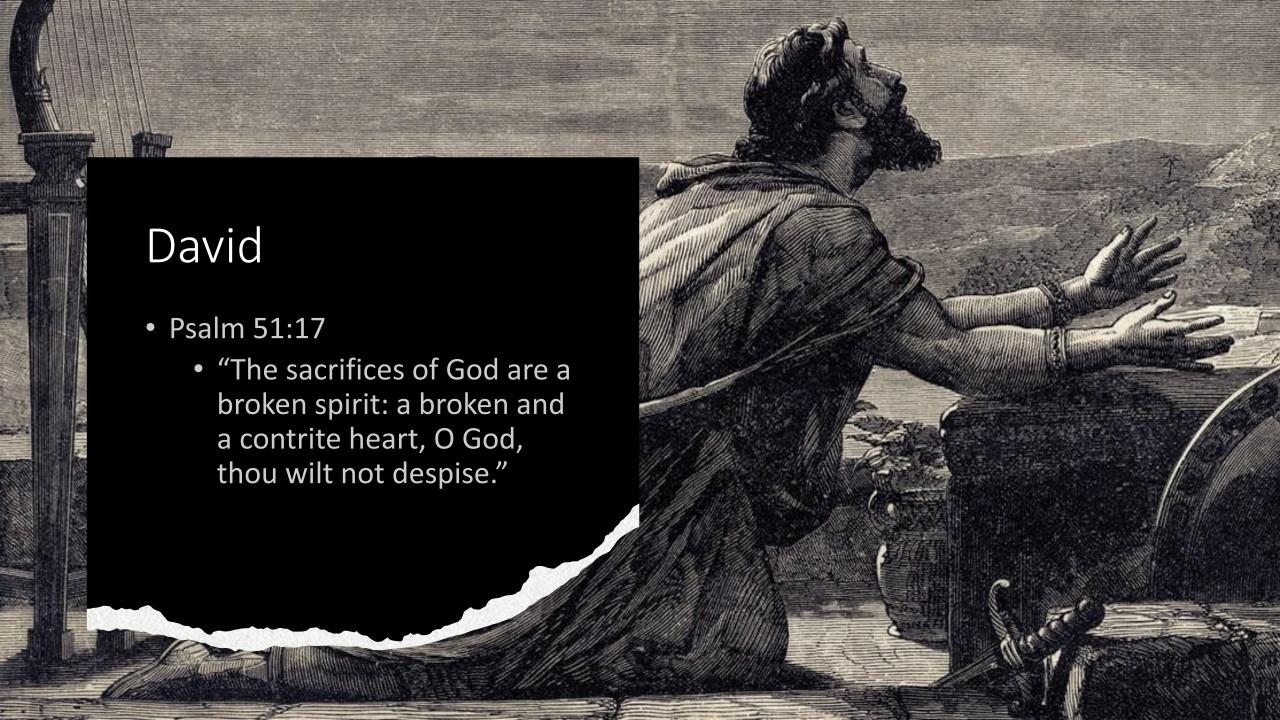
"For the **Son of man's sake**"

- Not anyone who is poor is blessed
- Not anyone who is hungry is blessed
- Not anyone who is weeping is blessed
- Not anyone who is excluded is blessed
- "For the Son of man's sake"
 - We are given a description of the kingdom of God
 - Really it is a description of a **Christian**

"Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom"

- Matthew 5:3
 - Blessed are the **poor in spirit**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Matthew 5:6
 - Blessed are they which do **hunger** and **thirst** after **righteousness**: for they shall be filled.
- Poor in spirit
 - We need to be spiritually hungry if we are to receive salvation at all







Poor in spirit

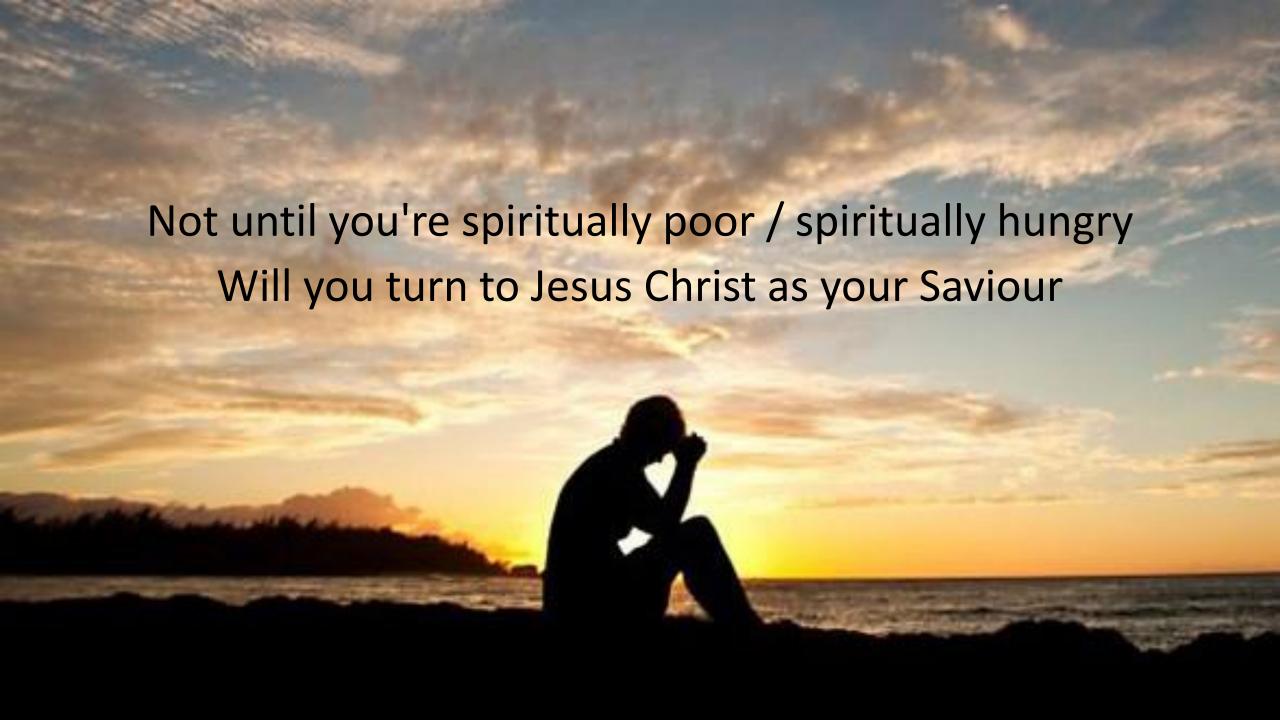
- You are not a Christian if you are not poor in spirit
- You are not a Christian if you are middle class in spirit
- Spiritually middle class?
 - I don't need your charity
 - I have worked hard
 - I have lived a pretty good life
 - God owes me as I have lived well
 - He certainly needs to answer my prayers
 - I don't need God's gift of salvation because I am not a bad person

Poor in spirit

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Poor in spirit

- You are not a Christian if you are not poor in spirit
- You are not a Christian if you are middle class in spirit
- Spiritually poor?
 - They are looking for charity/handout
 - Poor in spirit = acknowledging you are spiritually bankrupt
 - Not just that you haven't done good things
 - But that the good things you have done, you haven't done with the right motives
 - You need God's forgiveness



"Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom"

- The blessings of the kingdom of God only come to those who are poor in spirit
 - Who admit they are sinners and need the Lord Jesus Christ
 - Grieve over your sins



"Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled"

- Matthew 5:6
 - Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.



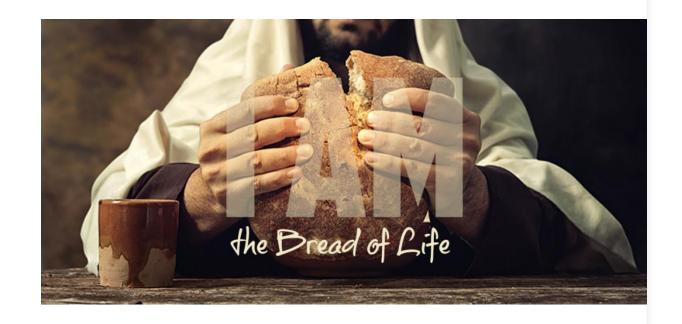
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Matthew 5:6

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John 6:35

 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.



The Implications

- If you are poor in spirit, truly spiritually hungry
 - You will have a heart for the literally and materially poor and hungry
 - And excluded
 - And marginalized
 - And oppressed



The Implications

- A real Christian
 - Although middle class/well-off/accomplished
 - Before God you know that you are spiritually bankrupt
 - We are spiritually alive only because He has shown you grace in the Lord Jesus
- It changes your attitude to who you want to hang out with
- Your heart goes out to:
 - The excluded
 - The messed up
 - The oppressed



"Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh"

 Everyone in the kingdom of God weeps more

- Why?
 - Even if your life is going well, you don't stay away from weeping people
 - You get involved with weeping people, and you're drained and sad too



Food for thought...

According to recent studies...

4,000-5,000 pastors quit each year.

- They don't quit because they have a lack of faith in God.
- They don't quit because they don't believe in the calling God has placed on their life.
- Most don't even quit because of financial reasons.
- Pastors quit because they are overwhelmed with mental exhaustion.



Food for thought... (cont.)

- Pastors stand in the middle of disputes.
- Pastors stand in the middle of gossip.
- Pastors counsel broken marriages.
- Pastors comfort those who have suffered loss.
- Pastors navigate the waters of imperfect people with a desire to see each one thrive in their faith. They long for spiritual breakthroughs.
- Your pastor craves the very best for you. All of this, while trying to battle their own flesh and grow in their own relationship with God.
- Pastors see the posts.
- Pastors hear the whispers.
- Pastors endure the negativity.
- Pastors are continually caring for the sheep while fending off the wolves.
- Pastors pour out and pour out rarely being poured into.



Food for thought... (cont.)

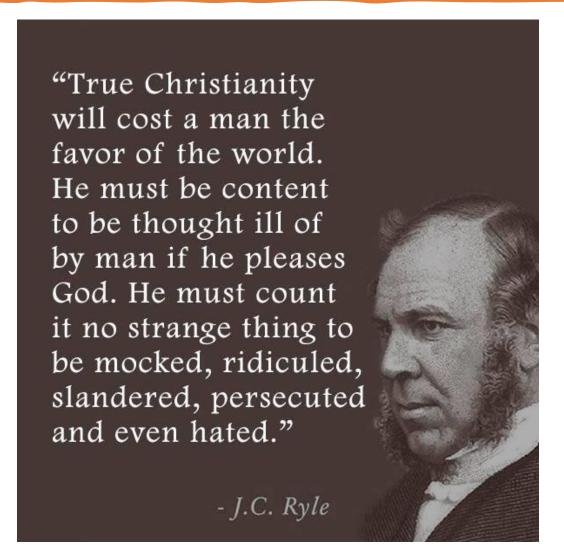
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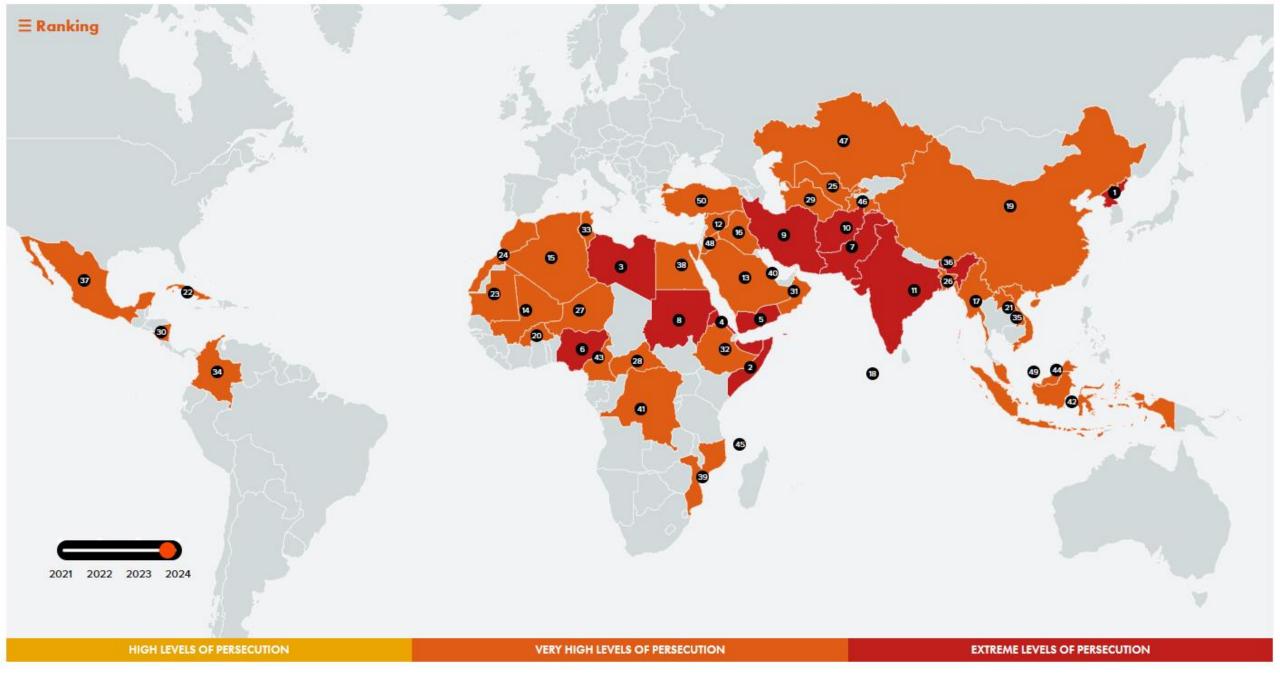


"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you... for the Son of man's sake"

- Blessed are ye
 - when men shall hate you
 - when they shall separate you from their company
 - shall reproach you
 - cast out your **name** as evil
 - for the Son of man's sake







https://www.opendoors.org/en-US/persecution/countries/

More than 365m Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith.













For the Son of Man's sake?

Matthew 16:25-26

- For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.
- For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?



Thy Kingdom Come

The Attributes of God's Kingdom

Thy Kingdom Come

The **Arrival** of God's Kingdom



How the Kingdom relates to Prayer

Praying Thy Kingdom Come

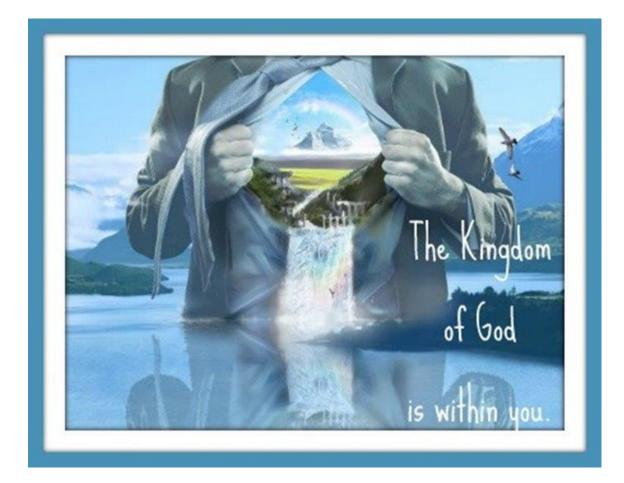
- Recognizing
 - the sovereignty of God
 - the Lordship of Christ
 - the jettisoning of my agenda for His agenda
- Whatever we are praying for is in submission to his kingship



Praying Thy Kingdom Come

- Recognizing
 - the sovereignty of God
 - the Lordship of Christ
 - the jettisoning of my agenda for His agenda
- Whatever we are praying for is in submission to his kingship
- Within you
 - That is the place in which God exercises His kingship
 - In you and in me

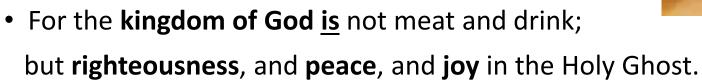




Luke 17:20-21

- And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:
- Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Romans 14:17





God's Kingdom

"So God's kingdom is not a place, but rather a relationship.

It exists wherever people enthrone Jesus as Lord of their lives."

- JI Packer



#1 Thy Kingdom Come - Means my Kingdom go

PRIORITIES

1.

2.

3.



#1 Thy Kingdom Come - Means my Kingdom go

- The priorities of life on Earth become secondary:
 - Kingdom of Power
 - Kingdom of Material Comfort
 - Kingdom of Success
 - Kingdom of Recognition

PRIORITIES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



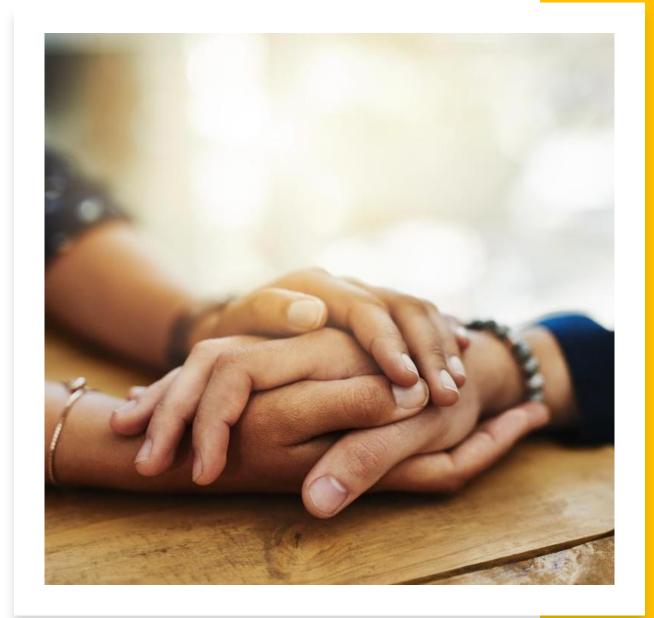
#2 Thy Kingdom Come – Love Others

- Thy Kingdom Come
 - To love others as the King as loved me



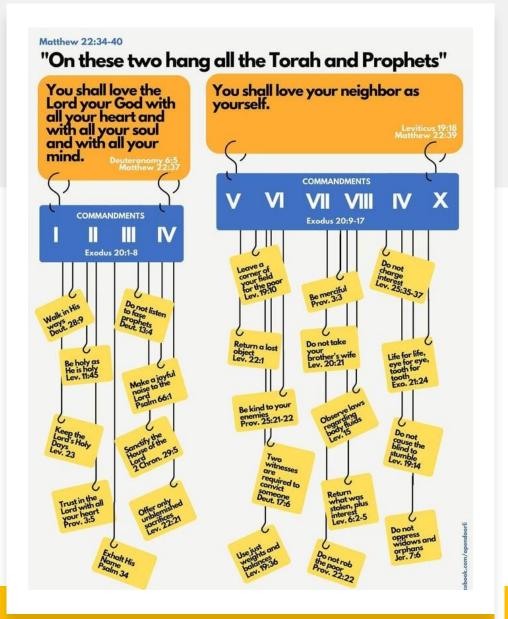
#2 Thy Kingdom Come – Love Others

- Thy Kingdom Come
 - To love others as the King as loved me
- Law of Christ
 - Romans 13:8
 - Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.
 - Galatians 6:2
 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.



#2 Thy Kingdom Come – Love Others

- Matthew 22:36-40
 - Master, which is the great commandment in the law?
 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt <u>love the Lord</u> thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
 - This is the first and great commandment.
 - And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt <u>love thy neighbour</u> as thyself.
 - On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.



#2.1 Thy Kingdom Come – Poor in spirit

- Keep me humble
- Move my hands to give to others
- Because Christ, though He was rich, yet for my sake, He became poor



#2.2 Thy Kingdom Come – Hunger and Thirst

- Let Your justice be done
 - If God is the king of the world, there will no longer be:
 - Oppression
 - Injustice
 - People living for themselves
 - Suffering
 - Death
 - Against the oppression, injustice, and violence in the world
 - Praying that God will set and make things right



#2.2 Thy Kingdom Come – Hunger and Thirst

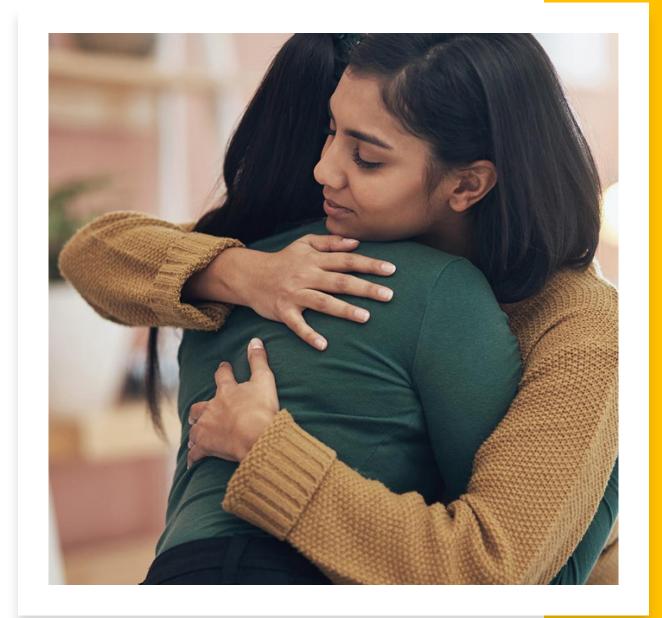
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- Move my hands to feed the hungry





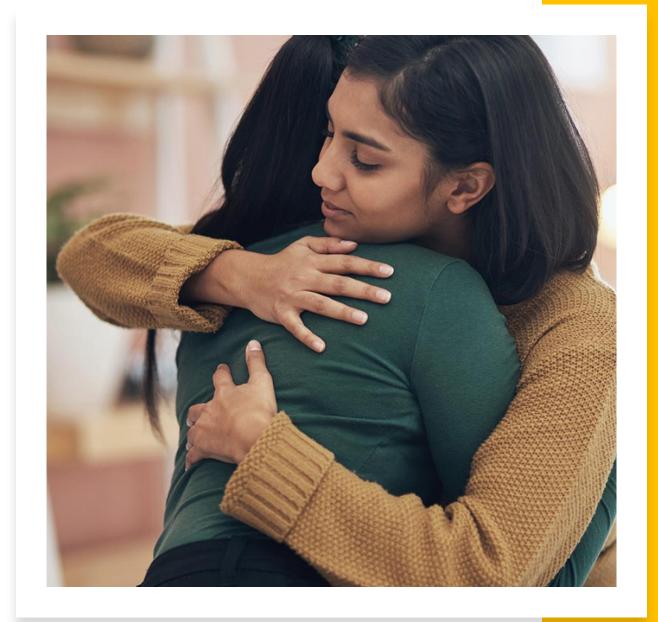
#2.3 Thy Kingdom Come– Weeping

 Move my hands to reach out to those who are grieving



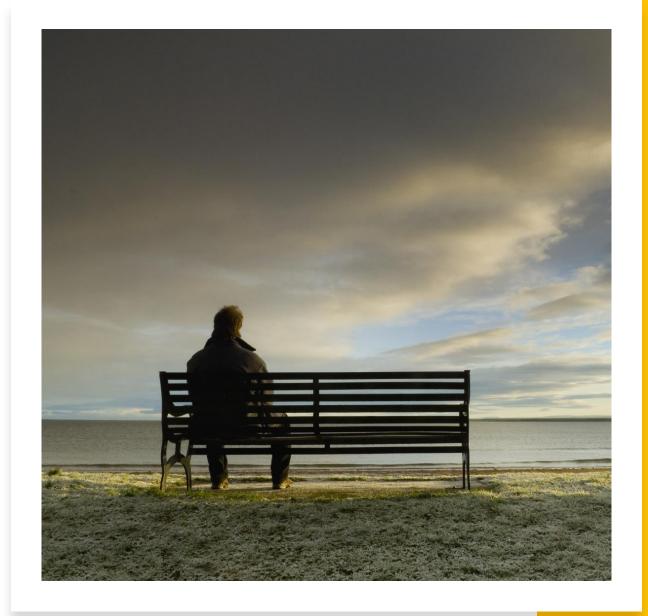
#2.3 Thy Kingdom Come– Weeping

- Move my hands to reach out to those who are grieving
- 1 Cor. 12:26
 - And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.
- Galatians 6:2
 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.



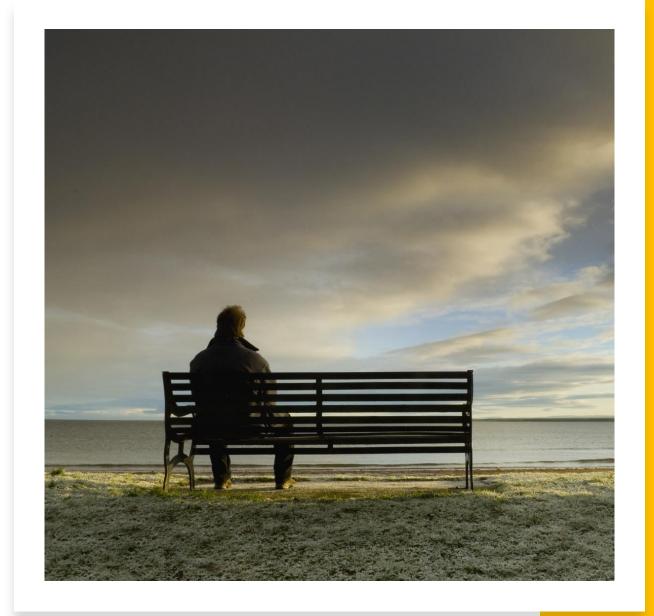
#2.4 Thy Kingdom Come – The Excluded

- Move me to reach out to those who are:
 - Isolated
 - Unloved
 - Unwanted
 - Fatherless
 - Widows
 - Foreigners
 - Without support



#2.4 Thy Kingdom Come – The Excluded

- Move me to reach out to those who are:
 - Isolated
 - Unloved
 - Unwanted
 - Fatherless
 - Widows
 - Foreigners
 - Without support
- Deut. 24:19a
 - "When thou... hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the <u>stranger</u>, for the <u>fatherless</u>, and for the <u>widow</u>..."



HE BEATITUDES

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. BLESSED ARE THEY WHO MOURN, FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED. BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE LAND. BLESSED ARE THEY WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY WILL BE SATISFIED. BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY WILL BE SHOWN MERCY. BLESSED ARE THE CLEAN OF HEART, FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD. BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD. LESSED ARE THEY WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR THE SAKE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Matthew 5:3-10

What did
Jesus Christ
do for you to
be in
His Kingdom?



What did
Jesus Christ
do for you to
be in
His Kingdom?



- How can He say yours is the kingdom of heaven?
- How can He say you shall be filled?

Blessed be ye poor

How can He say "yours is the kingdom of heaven"?

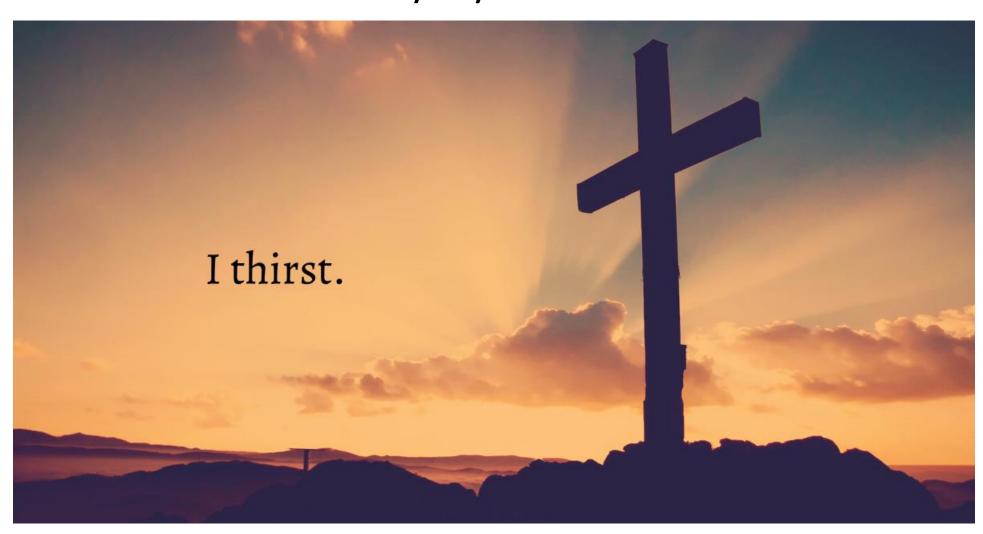
Blessed be ye poor

How can He say "yours is the kingdom of heaven"?



Blessed are ye that hunger now How can He say "you shall be filled"?

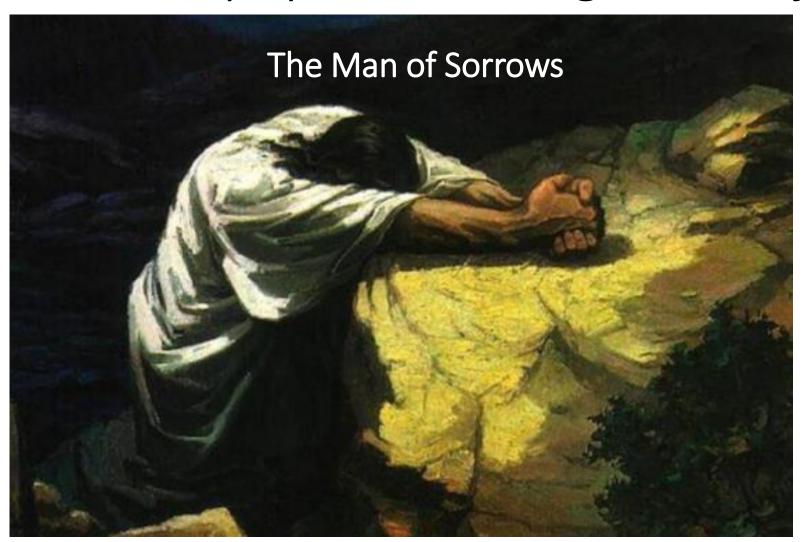
Blessed are ye that hunger and thirst How can He say "you shall be filled"?



Blessed are ye that weep now

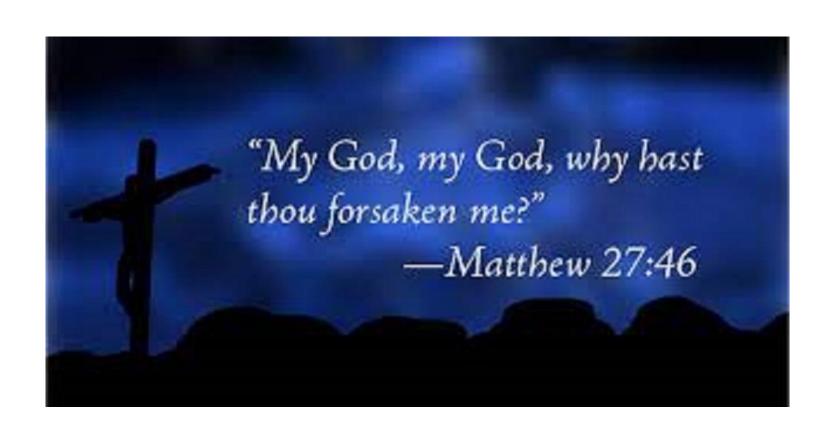
How can He say "you shall laugh and rejoice"?

Blessed are ye that weep now How can He say "you shall laugh and rejoice"?



Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you How can He say "accepted and brought into the kingdom of God"?

Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you How can He say "accepted and brought into the kingdom of God"?



What did Jesus Christ do for you to be in His Kingdom?



What did Jesus Christ do for you to be in His Kingdom?

- Jesus Christ was reversing places with us
 - He gets what we deserved
 - We get what He deserved



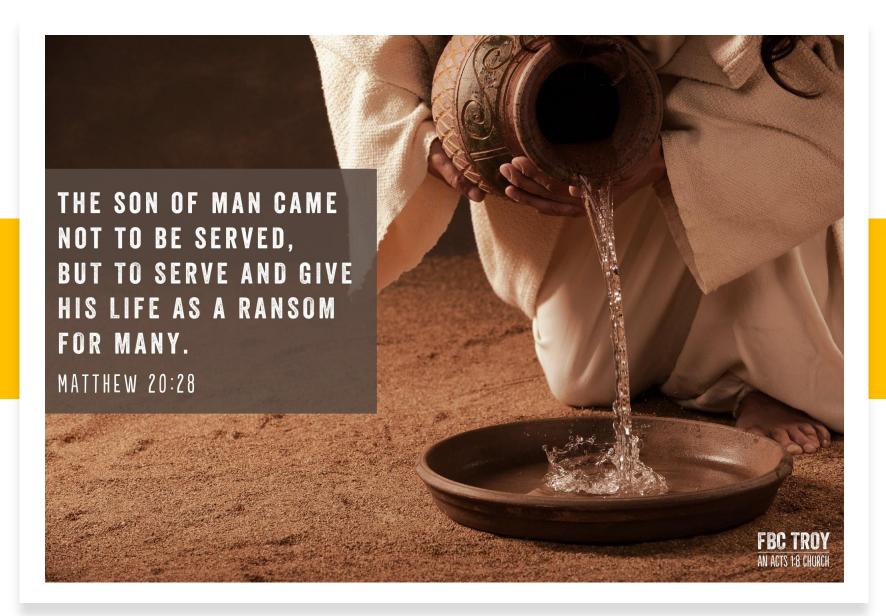






The Lord Jesus
Christ brought
the kingdom of
heaven down

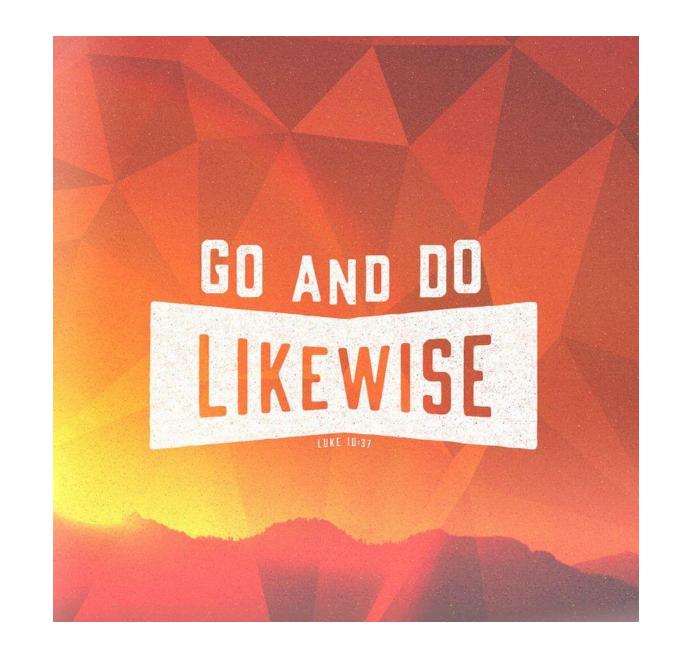




This King
Came to
Serve and
Give His Life

Luke 10:36-37

- "Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?
- And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise."



Thy Kingdom Come

- Thy **Kingdom** Come
 - The Absence of God's Kingdom
- Thy Kingdom Come
 - The Attributes of God's Kingdom
- Thy Kingdom Come
 - The Arrival of God's Kingdom

Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done

