

Salvation – Entering the Kingdom

"From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent! For the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:17 (MEV)

Have you ever thought about what the Bible means when it says "The kingdom of heaven is at hand"? This means that the kingdom of heaven is now within reach. This is the message Jesus began his ministry with.

We were all created to have a relationship with God as our Father. Adam and Eve experienced this in the Garden of Eden. The Bible says "God came and walked with them in the cool of the day"; however, when Adam and Eve sinned, the relationship between God and the human race was broken. The kingdom of heaven was now out of reach.

The Bible says, "...sin has separated you and your God". Jesus came to restore this relationship. The kingdom of heaven is righteousness; or more specifically, right relationship with God, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. This can only be experienced by having a relationship with Jesus, the King.

Often as Jesus would heal the sick and deliver people from the power of the devil, He would tell people that this was the result of the kingdom of heaven coming near. So living in the kingdom of heaven also includes freedom from all satanic bondage.

This is great news but how do you enter this kingdom?

Repentance is the doorway; to repent simply means to change your mind and go the other direction. It doesn't matter how much sin you have committed, you have not gone so far that the kingdom of heaven is out of reach. Secondly, it doesn't matter how good you are because none of us are perfect. Jesus Christ lived the perfect life you and I could never obtain. He is without sin; but on the cross, He took upon Himself the sin of the whole human race. He died and rose from the dead so that we could begin a new life in the kingdom of heaven. Now the choice is up to you; will you admit you have sinned, believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, and confess Christ as the Lord of your life? If you will do these things scripture makes it clear that you will be saved.

Simply pray this prayer out loud

Lord Jesus Christ I admit I am a sinner. I ask you to forgive me. I believe that you died on the cross, and rose from the dead come into my heart and take over my life. I confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord, and according to the word of God I am saved!

Now that you have prayed this prayer, you have walked through the doorway of repentance into the kingdom of heaven; but this is just the beginning of your relationship with God. Find a good Full Gospel Church in your area. Continue to learn God's Word. Get baptized in water, and learn about the baptism in the Holy Spirit. And when you do sin, remember that God is waiting for you with open arms. Don't run from the Lord, run to him confessing that sin, and forgiveness is yours.