



The Kingdom of God

February 4, 2018

Introduction:

The verses we will be looking at contain important teachings of Jesus, but are not in the form of a parable or include any of His parables. They do, however, provide for us a good introduction to the topic of the Kingdom of God. They also raise an important question for all to consider: “Are you in the Kingdom of God or not?”

What does it mean for you to be a full-fledged member of a group of people or program (team, family, etc.) that you are a part of?

How do you feel about those who have less than full-hearted commitment and involvement in it?

Read Matthew 7:13-27

As you look back over these verses, how does what Jesus says illustrate the “now, but not yet” reality of the Kingdom of God/Kingdom of Heaven?

What do v. 13-14 tell us about entering the Kingdom of God?

What is the “narrow gate”?

How do we know that we have entered the Kingdom of God through Jesus and are on the road that leads to eternal life and membership in God’s future and final Kingdom? What are the proofs or evidences that this has happened?

How do we see this illustrated by Jesus in v. 15-20?

So, does this mean that people can’t do any “good works” without faith in Jesus—or that everyone who does “good works” has entered and will enter the Kingdom of God? Look at v. 21-23. What do these verses tell us about “good works” and the Kingdom of God?

What then are distinguishing differences between those who do “good works” and are in the Kingdom of God and those who do “good works” and are not?

And how does one know what the will of the Father is in order to do it? Look at v. 24-27.

Summary:

This passage raises the question “Are you in the Kingdom of God or not?” The fact that Jesus says that many will find out on the day of Judgement that they are not in, and that “few” will enter into the Kingdom of God, makes it even more important for us to know what it means to be “in”. Lets summarize what we’ve learned from this passage to help us begin to answer the question.

People who are in the Kingdom of God and will enter into God’s future Kingdom

- Have entered through faith in Jesus
- Have experienced (and continue to experience) an internal (heart) change that produces external “good fruit”
- Hear and do what the Bible teaches in order to know and do the will of God in their lives.