

Inheriting The Kingdom

(7 12 09)

Bible Quiz

- In the last days when the Son of Man comes in His Glory, what will be the dividing factor in His Judgment of those who will take up the inheritance with Him?
 - A. Those who perform signs and wonders (Mat 7)
 - B. Those who are gentle and humble (Mat 11)
 - C. Those who serve Jesus (Mat 25)
 - D. Those who preach about the Kingdom of God (Act 28)

Inheriting the Kingdom

•Mat 25

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

•They asked, "Lord, when did we do this for you?"

-His response, "when you did for one of least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Thing to Understand

- **1st Thing to understand**

- Who were they serving?

- Brother in monastery (Brother Joseph?)

- Joy in serving

- Same for in 1992 (Col 3:23)

- Life changed completely. Why?

- What manager wanted...

- Discovered: Life is not about me

- Eph 6:7

- Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men

Whose Kingdom?

- **All go thru life wanting to build our kingdoms**

- Natural mind

- Even as we come to Christ

- Even mother of James & John (Mat 20)

- Disciples were indignant (Mat 20:24)

- Jesus said “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be the first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..”

- **Same message in Luke 22:27**

- For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

Living the Talk

- **Not only talked it, but demonstrated**

- **John 13**

- V.2 – evening meal being served

- V.4 – got up took towel

- V.5 – poured over in basin

- V.6-12 – washed disciples feet

- **Even lower than serving in kitchen**

- V.14 – **Now that I washed your feet, you should wash one another's feet**

- V.15 – **I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.**

- **Final conclusion**

- V. 17 – **Now that you know these things, you will be blessed (happy) if you do them.**

- Promise**

- Put a star by this**

- Live it**

How Are We Blessed?

- **Col 3:23**

- Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- Same as Mat 25

- **Some say, “I can’t wait that long”**

- 1Tim 3:13 “those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.”

- excellent standing (ex. good credit) & no doubt

- **There’s more**

- We are blessed b/c God gets the glory

- Greatest joy as believers

- Mat 5:16, 1Pet 4:11, Col 3

Does Attitude Matter?

- **Does attitude matters when we serve?**
 - Children's attitude
- **Be willing & eager to serve (1Pet 5:2)**
 - Not a "Have to" / Not forced labor
- **With Love (1Pet 4:8-11)**
- **Wholeheartedly (Col 3:23, Eph 6:7)**
- **To please commander (1Tim 2:4)**
 - Pleasing self produces stress & grumblings
 - I lived that life before
 - No expectation for self benefits
 - Note: Sign that focus on self

What this looks like

- **At work, home, church/cell...**
 - Wholeheartedly for Lord
 - With eagerness & love
 - Despite tasks
 - Despite taskmasters (to please them (ie. Pete))
- **Results**
 - Blessings & Inheritance (now and future)
- **John 13:17**
 - Now that you know these things, you will be blessed (happy) if you do them.
- **Application (Start living life of Jesus)**
 - Work & Home (impact to boss, spouse, children)
 - Church/Cell Opportunities
 - Kitchen/Hospitality & Children/youth
 - Cell leaders & Worship team
 - Outreaches

Edification Time

- Share a gifting that you have
- Which areas would you like to serve in
- Pray for one another.

