

Seek Ye First

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Jesus, speaking to His disciples over 1900 years ago, told them these words as recorded in Matthew 6:33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." This promise from the Lord is just as true today, friend, as it was the day He spoke it.

If the human race would only realize how important it is to get right with God as soon as the Holy Spirit witnesses to their hearts that they are lost, there would be much more true happiness and joy in their lives and a promise of Heaven when they leave this life.

Many young people believe that getting their education and living the way they want to live are the most important things at the present time, so they leave God out of their lives completely. The Bible, though, cries out from Ecclesiastes 12:1 and warns us of this false theory by saying, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Lamentations 3:26-27 shows us it is good to be joined up with the Lord while one is still young. Young person, to know Christ as your personal Savior and friend is the most wonderful thing that could ever occur in your life.

If young married couples would "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness," they would be in a better position to raise their children and teach them the good ways of God. Also, there would be no need of divorce courts because when Christ is ruling in the heart, they have happy Christian homes.

Many times older folks feel they can get along without God because they have done so for so many years, but have you ever given it much thought, senior citizen, that your life could have been more joyful and useful had you lived for the Lord instead of self? Perhaps you are thinking, "I'm too old and have gone too far in sin to get saved now." God's Word tells us in Hebrews 7:25, "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

We have been trying to show the youth, the middle aged, and the older ones how much they need salvation through Jesus Christ. The wonderful thing about God's salvation is that it is for all age groups, and we all obtain it in the same manner: by repentance, confessing our sins to God, and receiving Jesus Christ as our Lord and Master. We cannot reject God's plan of salvation and substitute man's way and expect to gain Heaven when we leave this life.

Jesus taught that the way to gain salvation was by repenting (Matthew 4:17 says, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand") and not by joining some church or by some other way that man has invented.

Second Peter 3:9 tells us the same thing concerning repentance by saying, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." First John 1:9 gives this promise to every sinner if they each will only acknowledge their true condition before God: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

No matter what you may profess, my friend, if you are not living a holy life before God in this present world, you are still a sinner and as lost as the drunkard sitting at the liquor bar, for 1 John 2:3-4, 6 tells us: "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him. . . . He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked."

This could be the day when your whole life could be changed, for 2 Corinthians 6:2 cries out, "(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation I have succoured thee: behold, now is the day of salvation.)"

Do you realize, my friend, that your soul is worth more than this whole world and that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, paid for your redemption when He shed His life's blood on Calvary's Cross? God's Word gives us this wonderful promise in John 3:16-17.

Don't you think it is time to "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness" and start living a new

life for Him? Your life can be changed completely when you receive Bible salvation, for 2 Corinthians 5:17 lets us know, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

In closing, we quote from Romans 10:9, 10, and 13, and we ask you, reader friend, to give these Scriptures serious thought for the good of your never-dying soul: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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