

Part 7 – The Kingdom is the Lord's

In part six we learned an important point to the use of 'Jacob' in the Scriptures verses 'Israel'. In Gen 32:28 God changed Jacob's name to Israel. But, even after that, Scriptures *still* sometimes refer to Jacob (and his natural seed) as 'Jacob' but sometimes they refer to Jacob (or his natural seed) as "Israel". And this 'distinction' is vitally important, because 'Jacob' is used to refer to Jacob's (or his natural seed's) lack of faith and/or weaknesses while 'Israel' is used to refer to Jacob's 'strength' in believing (having *faith* in) God Almighty. That's why 'Jacob' refers only to Jacob's natural seed while 'Israel' refers to Jacob's 'spiritual seed' that would be 'born' by the Holy Spirit when they believe in Jesus Christ. Paul explains this really well in Gal chapter 3. Thus, we also learned that God has *always* wanted the 'gentile nations' (those who are not of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob's natural seed) to worship, love and serve Him. He even allowed them to partake of the very first Passover, so long as the males in their family were physically circumcised – because the 'covenant of circumcision' looked forward to the spiritual circumcision of the Holy Spirit given to us *by faith in Jesus Christ*. And that truly is what really matters to our Heavenly Father. So, all people of all races *should* fear and revere God Almighty as well as praise Him. And there is much to praise Him for as David pointed out. For our Heavenly Father does not hide His face from those who love, revere, seek and obey Him. Instead, He *always* helps us in our 'times of troubles'. So long as we don't leave Him, He'll never leave us. And that's why David promised God he would always praise Him and 'pay His vows'. However, we learned from Jesus it's best not to make vows but rather to try to always do what we say we will and ask God's help and blessings in doing so. For what He wants most from us (instead of empty promises) is to give Him 'spiritual' sacrifices such as thanksgiving, praise, joy, righteousness, controlling your body, including your mouth (which is perhaps the hardest body part to control!). And *that's* what we should strive to give Him – *sincerely* – from the 'bottom of our heart'. We'll now move on to learn what else David tells us about the "Messiah's glory" ...

Psalms 22

26 The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever.

David continues to explain the reasons we should fear (revere) and praise the Lord (YHWH). The 'meek' are those who are *depressed* (figuratively), *in mind* or *circumstances* ('*anav* #6035). It's also been translated as humble, lowly and poor. The word 'satisfied' means *to sate*, i.e. *fill to satisfaction* (literally or figuratively) (*saba* #7646). So, the promise that they shall 'eat and be satisfied' is two-fold, as it's both physical and spiritual. In Psalms 103, when David is blessing the Lord (YHWH) for all His benefits, one of the things he 'blesses' the Lord for (which is an act of worship in adoration) is satisfying his mouth with good things so that his youth is renewed like the eagle's (vs 5). And this is actually one of the 'blessings' that God promises us for obeying Him...

*1 And it shall come to pass, **if** thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:*

*2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, **if** thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God...*

*...5 **Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store...***

*... 8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee **in thy storehouses**, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
Deut 28:1-2,5,8*

1 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God.

2 Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

*3 **If** ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;*

*4 **Then** I will give you rain in due season, and the **land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.***

*5 And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time; and **ye shall eat your bread to the full**, and dwell in your land safely.*

Lev 26:1-5

Indeed, it is a blessing to have good food to physically eat, for it does invigorate our flesh and gives us the strength we need to serve God and be productive for the day. Prov 13:25 also tells us that *the righteous eateth to the satisfying of his soul: but the belly of the wicked shall want.*

Anyone who has ever not had enough food to eat certainly appreciates having enough good food to fill their belly! But this promise that the meek shall ‘eat and be satisfied’ is not contained to the flesh. ‘Eating’ is also a figure of speech that means to *take in and digest* God’s Word. This is why both Ezekiel and John were told to ‘eat’ the ‘roll’ (scroll) and ‘little book’ they were given in Ezek 3:1-4 and Rev 10:8-11. They were both told to do so, so they could have the *spiritual* nourishment to speak God’s Word to those they were sent to. Ezekiel was sent to the house of Israel and John was to prophesy to ‘many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings’. Jesus also used this figure of speech, which was very common in His days in John 6. He said...

*48 **I am that bread of life.***

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

*50 **This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.***

*51 **I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.***

52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?

53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

54 *Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

55 ***For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.***

56 *He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.*

57 *As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so **he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.***

58 *This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.*

59 *These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.*

60 *Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?*

61 *When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?*

62 *What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?*

63 ***It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.***

John 6:48-63

Although ‘eating and drinking’ in *knowledge* was a very common idiom in His day, people who heard Jesus say that He is the ‘bread of life’ and we must ‘eat and drink’ His flesh and blood in order to have eternal life, were greatly offended because they thought He was talking about cannibalism. So, the analogy went right over their head. Even Jesus’ disciples were offended by it because they didn’t understand what He was saying. That’s why He then clearly told them what He was truly saying in verse 63: ***It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*** It is the Holy Spirit that gives us life (Rom 8:11-14) and it is the Holy Spirit who helps us understand the Word of God - and understanding God’s Word IS what gives us spiritual life. It nourishes our soul because it gives us truth (John 17:17). And because our soul is much more important than our flesh body, it behooves us to seek His Word (the truth) first and foremost instead of worrying about what we’ll eat physically, as Jesus also taught us...

31 *Therefore take no thought [i.e. don’t worry about it], saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

32 *(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for **your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.***

33 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

34 *Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

Matt 6:31-34

Jesus pointed out that if we seek the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, *first* (more than physical food) *then* God will make sure we’ll have enough food to fill our flesh belly with. So,

His point was that spiritual food is better than physical food because *it's everlasting*. It gives life to our soul (which has the potential to live forever) which **is** more important because our flesh *will not live forever no matter how well we feed it*. Jesus used this same analogy in John 4, when speaking of the 'living water' He had to offer the Samaritan woman at the well. At first, she didn't understand, but after a while of conversing with Jesus a while, she realized what He was saying and ran to tell others in the town. Because of her testimony, many people in the town came out to see Jesus and to hear His Word (the true Living Water) and they then believed on Him too. Prov 24:13-14 also explains this analogy clearly when it says: *My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste: **So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.*** And likewise does Ps 119:103 say, ***how sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*** And this analogy is also used when speaking of 'feeding' and giving 'water' to others. While our Heavenly Father certainly does want us to help people who are truly 'down and out' physically, what's much more important than giving people physical food and water is to give them truth that feeds and waters their soul – i.e. the Word of God. While it's no sin to be poor, much of the time people *stay* that way because they do not obey God's Word. Never forget Jesus promised us that God would take care of our needs (not wants but needs) if we seek and obey Him first and foremost. As such, many people *cause their own problems* and to not use what little money they have wisely, which causes them to have little money left over to feed themselves and their family. [Learn more in the special study on: **Isn't It Okay to Help; What's the Difference** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/292>]. As such, Proverbs tells us...

21 *If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:*
22 *For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.*
Prov 25:21-22

Why would giving your 'enemy' (someone you do not personally like or vice versa) end up 'heaping coals of fire' upon their head? Because it's an *analogy* meaning: if you help those who you don't like (or vice versa) then *you will humble them immensely*. And there is no better way to help (and humble) people than to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. There's an old saying that explains this very well: 'Feed a man a fish and you'll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you'll feed him forever'. This is why, after Jesus fed the multitude of five thousand, He refused to feed them *again*, even though they followed Him the next day and begged Him to feed them again. Instead, He told them (in John 6 we looked at earlier) what they really needed is *spiritual* food. And while there are some people who are truly poor (especially in foreign countries) feeding them physically *doesn't help them in the long term*. They must be taught how to farm, and garden, and take care of themselves *in order for them to be self-sufficient*. Further, much of the time, when there are really poor people, it's because their governments are very corrupt. Their policies make it so the people have a hard time taking care of themselves. Further, some people are physically hungry because they are simply *lazy*, and don't want to work to feed themselves (or their family). They just like 'hand outs', which was what the multitude that followed Jesus (after He fed them) were like. They wanted to make Him their 'king' simply so

He would continue to feed them *free* food... *forever*. But Jesus refused to fuel their laziness and told them how they could ‘feed’ themselves (both physically and spiritually) if they would only have *listened* to (and obeyed) Him. As Paul says in 2 Thess 3:10, *if any won’t work, neither should he eat*.

So, the answer really does not lie with simply feeding the poor people. They must be willing to learn God’s Word and strive to feed themselves. So, the bottom line is that people really need *God’s Word* – both so they can learn to do what’s right (work to feed themselves) and also so they can learn to fix the corruption in their nation so they don’t have to live under policies that make it hard to earn a living. This is why people often misconstrue Jesus’ teachings in Matt 25:31-46 - where Jesus tells us that those who have given people ‘meat and drink’, and ‘took them in’, and ‘clothed them’, and ‘visited them’ when they were sick or in prison, will be accepted into His kingdom – they take this on a physical level *only*. To reiterate, there is a time and a place to help people physically, but *most* of the time they need *spiritual* help. And to only give physical help *without* giving them spiritual food and water (the Word of God) *is not really helping them*. So, when this verse 26, here in Psalms 22, says that the *meek shall eat and be satisfied* - it is a promise that God will take care of us physically – but that is only because we are *seeking His truth*. Without seeking the Word of God, that feeds and waters our soul (as Psalms 23 will teach us also), feeding and watering people physically won’t truly help them. It might temporarily ease their fleshly pain, but *it won’t help them in the long run*. And we should always remember that it’s better to ‘teach a man to fish’ than to simply ‘feed him a fish for a day’.

Now, this verse goes on to say that *they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever*. So, those who seek the Lord (YHHV) will praise Him and in return, their ‘heart’ shall live forever. This is a promise for *eternal life* and **it’s based on our seeking the Lord** (YHVH) **with all our heart, mind and soul**, as Moses explained *thousands* of years ago...

23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

24 For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:

26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

27 And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.

28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

31 (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

Deut 4:23-31

Indeed, Israel (both the northern kingdom of Israel and southern kingdom of Judah) was scattered out of the Promise Land; first by the Assyrians and then by the Babylonians. But, true to His Word (Jer 23:4-8, 29:14, 31:10-11, 32:16-17; Ezek 11:16-17, 20:33-38, 34:11-16, 37:21-28), God has gathered them back and they are now called the ‘Christian nations’ of ‘the West’. And that’s why Moses said (in verse 30) ‘even in the latter days’ when we seek God with ALL our heart and soul (mind) *then* we’ll find Him. And when we’re in tribulation (which we surely are) IF we turn back to Him *and* obey His voice (His Word and Holy Spirit) *then* He won’t forsake us, nor destroy us, nor forget the covenant with our fathers (Israel). And how do we turn our heart and mind back to God? By accepting the only means of salvation He has given us, which is through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. So, our ‘heart’ (our soul) can only live forever when we accept Jesus Christ. As Rom 10:13 declares: *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved*. He was quoting from Isa 28:16, which says: *Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste*. Paul translates this as: *For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed* (Rom 10:11). And this is a very true statement!

And the reason that the only way to live eternally is through accepting Jesus Christ, is because: only believing in Him (that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, lived a sinless life, died for our sins, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to be our intercession) can change our wicked heart (the ‘old man’) into a ‘new man’ that CAN live forever. *We must make an internal transformation inside our soul in order to obtain eternal life* - and this can only happen through sincere faith in Jesus Christ, studying His Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide, cleanse and protect us, for He teaches us how to obey God’s Word *from the heart*. Truly, the only good ‘thing’ in us is the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. That’s why, if we don’t want to receive the cursings that the wicked people get (and if we don’t want to die spiritually) we must put off our ‘old man’ *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and not serve sin any longer (Rom 6:6). And we do this by *renewing in the spirit of our mind* (Eph 4:23) through God’s Word (Col 3:10) so we can put on the ‘new man’, *which is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). And that is why those who are *meek shall eat and be satisfied* and why they will seek and praise the Lord (YHVH) through His Son, Jesus Christ and why they’ll be able to live forever. As Jesus Himself said in John 14:6: *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*. In other words, Jesus’ suffering and death allows us to enjoy the ‘fruit’ of His sufferings, which is eternal life.

Psalms 22

27 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

The *Companion Bible* explains that the words ‘all the ends’ of the world is a figure of speech called a ‘*Metonymy*’ (of subject) (apx 6) which uses the words ‘all the ends’ to refer to *the people dwelling in the farthest regions of the world*. Let’s remember also that these verses speak of the Messiah’s glory. And Jesus is glorified when the Gospel is taken to all nations of the earth, as is our commission (Mth 29:18-20). And hearing the Gospel is also what causes people to seek Him in meekness (humility), which in turn causes them to be able to ‘eat and be satisfied’ spiritually (vs 26). And while this commission has been fulfilled *in part*, by the Lord’s faithful servants throughout the thousands of years since Jesus walked the earth, it will be done on a grander scale during the ‘great tribulation’ of the antichrist, when Satan is on earth calming to be the ‘Savior’ of the world (Rev 12-13, 2 Thess 2, etc.). Why? Because *the gospel must first be published among all nations* (Mk 13:11) before the true Jesus Christ returns to ‘save’ all those who humbly seek and serve Him. As Jesus also said in Matt 24:14: *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come*. And, as Jesus also said in Mth 10:18-22, Mk 13:9-13, Lk 21:12-19 and Rev 11, the two witnesses (as well as many other faithful servants of Jesus Christ) will witness to the world the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And this will be done when they are delivered up to councils, synagogues, rulers and kings for Jesus Christ’s sake, *for a testimony against them* (Mark 13:9). And of course, when the true Jesus Christ does return to earth to take over, *every knee will bow, both in heaven, and in earth, and things under the earth; that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father* (Phil 2:10-11, Rom 14:11-12, Isa 45:23). And, as Zech 14:9 says: *and the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one*. And during the Millennium, all of God’s children will be taught the truth (without any satanic interference) by Jesus’ faithful servants who stood by Him during their life in the flesh (Jer 23:3-8, Ezek 34:11-16, Ezek 44:23-24, Rev 20:4-6) so that many more of God’s will turn their heart and mind back to God (through Jesus Christ) and worship Him *in sincerity*.

Psalms 22

28 For the kingdom is the LORD's: and he is the governor among the nations.

Indeed, the Kingdom IS the Lord’s (YHVH) and He IS the governor (ruler) among all nations. As Moses said...

17 For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward:

18 He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

Deut 10:17-18

Ps 96:4-5 also tells us that, *the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.* And Ps 103:19 also says, *the LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.* So, YHVH truly is the God of gods and Lord of lords simply because YHVH has created all things in heaven and on earth (Gen 1:1, Isa 42:5, Isa 45:12, 18, Ps 96:4-5; 148:1-6, John 1:1-3, Acts 4:24; 14:15, Eph 3:9, Col 1:16, Rev 4:11; Rev 14:7). So, even though He allows others to govern the world, He still is in His holy Temple in heaven, He sees all that's going on (Ps 11:4) and *He has all power over all His creation* – power that He has now given His Son, Jesus Christ so He can rule heaven and earth when He returns (Mth 28:18, John 17:2). As He said in Psalms 2:6, He will set His 'King' (Jesus Christ) on His 'holy hill' (Zion, in Jerusalem) ... *at the right time.* As David prophesied in Ps 110:1, *the LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, **until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*** So, we know that Jesus Christ is in heaven, at God's right hand, waiting for His enemies to 'be made' His 'footstool' before He returns. Isa 66:1 tells us that heaven is God's throne, and the earth is His footstool. So, it's not until Satan and his fallen angels (God's enemies) are cast down to earth (Rev 12:9-10) until His enemies will 'be made His footstool' [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/989>]. And this is why Jesus taught us to pray, in Matt 6:10 and 13: *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.* And, as God promised David in 2 Sam 7:11-16, this kingdom would come through David's descendant, Jesus Christ. Which is why Isaiah prophesied...

*6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and **the government shall be upon his shoulder:** and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

*7 **Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.** The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

Isa 9:6-7

And even Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, recognized that YHVH's *kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation* (Dan 4:1-3). And Daniel was given a vision concerning this too in Dan 7:19-28. And in another Psalm, David declares...

10 All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.

*11 **They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;***

*12 **To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.***

*13 **Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.***

Ps 145:10-13

And while God's everlasting Kingdom is a real, physical kingdom, Paul explains what it'll be like in Rom 14:17: *the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but **righteousness, and peace, and***

joy in the Holy Ghost. In other words, Jesus' kingdom is not merely 'a show'. He doesn't govern by a bunch of 'pomp and circumstance' or meaningless 'rituals', but *with righteousness*. And He *will* give us peace of mind, and joy in our heart, *when* we repent for our sins, accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, learn of Him and strive to obey His Word and Holy Spirit. And with this also comes *power*, as Jesus also said in Lk 10:19. Which is why Paul says, in 1 Cor 4:20, that *the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power*. While politicians today rule with a bunch of empty promises, God's Kingdom (through Jesus Christ) will be in power, not idle words and vain promises. Jesus Christ will enforce God's righteous Laws *with perfection* and He'll use His faithful followers to do so. Which is why He has *delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins* (Col 1:13-14). So, while God's kingdom is now governed through His Holy Spirit (John 16:7-11), Jesus Christ will return soon (after Satan is cast to earth to 'rule' for a very short time) to literally take over the world (and heaven). And Jesus' Kingdom will not be governed by the wicked people who currently run the world (as Ps 2 spoke of), nor Satan who corrupted himself (and many others) in the first earth age (Ezek 28). As Paul wrote...

*9 Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,*

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

*11 And such were some of you: **but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.***

1 Cor 6:9-11

So, the only people who will rule with Jesus Christ when He returns will be *those who have remained faithful to Him*. As such, we must first make an internal transformation by putting off the 'old man' *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and not serving sin any longer (Rom 6:6). And then *renewing the spirit of your mind* (Eph 4:23) through God's Word (Col 3:10) and putting on the 'new man', *which is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). As Peter also tells us...

*3 According as his divine power hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:***

*4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: **that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***

*5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith** virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

*8 **For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

*10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for **if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:***

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

1 Pt 1:3-11

Indeed, when we learn to ‘walk in the Spirit’ (Gal 5) we learn how to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in life [learn more: **Hearing God** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyAudios/39>]. And the Holy Spirit will help us to learn God’s Word and obey it sincerely, as we diligently study it. And this is what helps us put off the ‘old man’ and put on the ‘new man’ so we are **fit** to govern with Him when He returns. It is the Holy Spirit that will make us *able* to rule with Jesus Christ during the Millennium, and we have to prepare for this *now*, by learning to obey God’s Word and His Holy Spirit *now*. As the parable of the talents in Mth 25 tells us, if we cannot be faithful over ‘little’ (use our gifts and take ‘dominion’ our heart, mind, body and life - and the area of influence God gives us, *now*) then we will not be able to handle more responsibility when Jesus Christ returns. So, even though the world is currently run by horribly corrupt people (and will be more so when Satan is ruling) *this is very temporary*. God is only allowing it to test His children, and to allow the Gospel to be taught to His children who have not heard it properly. God wants His children to *willingly* choose to love, and follow Him; so that is why He’s so patiently allowing the wicked to rule the world.... *for now* (2 Pt 3:9). But, the time will come that God’s patience will run out and Jesus Christ will return to the earth - and when He does, He will indeed be the KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS (Rev 19:16). The question is, will you be found acceptable to the King of kings when He returns, or find yourself being spoken to like Mth 7:21-23 says?

*20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
21 **Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.***

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 20-25

We’ll pick this up in part 8...

AMEN.