

The Season we are in..

Change

Spring Cleaning

This year:

#SeekFirst

shofar
christian church

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#SeekFirst

Matthew 6:33 (HCSB)

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

Last time, the #SeekFirst key was: **WISDOM**

Proverbs 3:13-17 (AMP) Happy [blessed, considered fortunate, to be admired] is the man who finds [skillful and godly] wisdom, And the man who gains understanding and insight [learning from God's word and life's experiences], 14 For wisdom's profit is better than the profit of silver, And her gain is better than fine gold.

James 1:5 “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”

Today's #seekfirst key is

THE KINGDOM

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2. KINGDOM: BACKGROUND

Types of Rule: [*Many, here are one or two..*]

1. Democracy: Governing by the people, the majority;
2. Anarchy: government by none;
3. Hierarchy: government by a ranked body;
4. Autocracy: government by one individual
 - a. Dictatorship
 - b. **Kingdom: Rule by one person**

Problems for us concerning Kingdom thinking..

1 Corinthians 15:50 (ESV)

50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Bible:

Βασιλεία; **basileia**

bas-il-i'-ah

From G935; properly royalty, that is, (abstractly) rule, or (concretely) a realm (literally or figuratively): - kingdom, + reign.

KINGDOM = WHERE THE KING'S WILL IS DONE

Where GOD / JESUS reigns

3. THE KINGDOM: Matthew 6:33 (HCSB)

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

(AMP) 33 But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.

3.1 The Kingdom of God:

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Trinity



3.1 The Kingdom of God..:

1. The REIGN of God

- not the realm / area / ground / specific place of God
- spiritual reality
- Wherever the Holy Spirit brings forth righteousness, peace and joy, there is the moment / 'place' where God's Kingdom is being manifested

[3.1 The Kingdom of God...:]

2. God's REDEMPTION / SAVING

- not a total earthly reign, yet 😊

3. Kingdom PARTIALLY FULFILLED

- One day it's fullness shall come
- **Matthew 6:9** Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.."

[3.1 The Kingdom of God...:]

4. Kingdom is at Faith's reach:

- Faith in Christ
- **Matthew 3:2** ..and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
- **Matthew 4:17** From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

[3.1 The Kingdom of God...:]

5. Kingdom of God and Christ

- Christ was the Messiah, the King that came
- Ephesians 5:5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

[3.1 The Kingdom of God...:]

- # 6. The Reign of God through His Spirit in our lives:
- **Fruit of the Spirit:** righteousness, peace and joy – is the Kingdom of God.

3.2 We Seek, how will we recognise?

A. Where you 'see' the King and His work:

- **Luke 17:20** Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, 21 nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you."

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.



I could not even guess that salvation was that close to my thoughts.

B. The Word:

Know, recognise and applying the WORD of GOD

Matthew 13:11 He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them."

Matthew 13:19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

C. The Holy Spirit:

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- Born again, received, led by the Spirit

Romans 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Seek First the KING AND HIS KINGDOM

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.



#SEEK FIRST SERIES THE KINGDOM

PRAYER

