

Message Four

Doing the Will of Father for the Kingdom

Scripture Reading: Matt. 7:21-23; 6:10; 12:39, 42, 50

- I. The kingdom is absolutely a matter of God's will and completely fulfills God's will; in fact, the kingdom of God is God's will—Matt. 6:10:**
 - A. As the kingdom people, we are on earth to do the Father's will—7:21; 12:50.
 - B. In order to do the will of the Father, we need to enter in through the narrow gate and walk on the constricted way—7:13-14:
 1. The narrow gate excludes the old man, the self, the flesh, the human concept, and the world with all its glory; only that which corresponds with God's will can enter in.
 2. As we walk on the constricted way, we are restricted by a mysterious, invisible, inward control, and we live under this control.

- II. "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens"—Matt. 7:21:**
 - A. To call on the Lord suffices for us to be saved, but to enter into the kingdom of the heavens, we also need to do the will of the heavenly Father—Rom. 10:13; 12:2; Matt. 12:50; Eph. 5:17; Col. 1:9.
 - B. Since entering into the kingdom of the heavens requires doing the will of the heavenly Father, it is clearly different from entering into the kingdom of God through regeneration—John 3:3, 5:
 1. The entrance into the kingdom of God is through being born of the divine life—1:12-13; 3:5-6.
 2. The entrance into the kingdom of the heavens is through the living of the divine life—Matt. 7:21; 12:50.
 - C. The Lord Jesus rebuked those who prophesied, cast out demons, and did works of power in His name because, as "workers of lawlessness," they did these things out of themselves, not out of obedience of God's will—7:23:
 1. There are two principles in the universe—the principle of God's authority and the principle of Satan's rebellion—Acts 1:7; Isa. 14:13-14.
 2. We cannot serve God on the one hand and take the way of rebellion on the other hand.
 3. We must turn away from the principle of lawlessness and reject the way of rebellion—Matt. 28:18; Jude 11.
 4. Serving God is directly linked to His authority.
 5. If we do not settle the matter of authority, we will have problems in all areas of our service.
 - D. May the Lord preserve our service in the principle of submission to God's authority and the Father's will—Acts 1:7; Matt. 7:12; 12:50.