

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

You Asked For It, Pt. 9 **Whose Rules Apply?**

Let's pray together, please...

*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on
earth as it is in heaven."*

.....

*This series calls us to ask for God's kingdom will
here...*

- *With some clearly revealed applications for
our lives*
 - *Including our life **among the weeds** the
enemy plants*
 - *The first one **(13:24-25)** set the
environment for the others*
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*Jesus mentioned the kingdom of heaven more than
30 times in Matthew.*

- *We've looked at **seven applied kingdom
likenesses** so far*
 - *Did any suggest conflict between the world
& the kingdom?*
-

*How do we respond to the world **in conflict with His
kingdom?***

- *We should have that settled **before** it
happens*
 - *Jesus gave us a good example in **Matt. 4:1-
11 & Heb. 4:15***
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**Romans 12:2, And do not be conformed to this
world, but be transformed by the renewing of your
mind, that you may prove what is that good and
acceptable and perfect will of God.**

- **Conformity to the world** can go unnoticed if
we're not watchful
-

Jesus did not come to take over this world

- **That comes later**
 - *Others are trying to now*
-

He came to take over our life!

- **Which takeover** will you surrender to?
 - *That will be based on **what you believe...***
 - *Actually... **who** we believe*
-

*When the wisdom of this world conflicts with His
kingdom...*

- **The world is wrong!**
-

Jesus doesn't negotiate in His kingdom!

- *He doesn't accommodate*
 - *He doesn't compromise*
 - *He doesn't contend or argue*
 - *He doesn't defend or justify*
-

*He is **the author and sustainer** of all that is!*

- *He is **the way, the truth and the life!***
 - **He is life itself!**
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- Are **both** misrepresenting Him
- **I Corinthians 1:10-13**, "Is Christ divided?"

He doesn't owe anyone an explanation

- For **those in His kingdom** who ask Him...
- He does explain... **after we believe...**
- **Believe in Him, and in who He IS**
- He wants us to understand **(7:7-8)**

Some of "The Church" are trying to accommodate the world... hoping to be relevant.

- Relevant **to who?**
- **Matthew 12:48-50**, "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."
*Don't be relevant now, and **irrelevant forever** in the kingdom

Some people claiming His name are publicly separating over worldly opinions

- Both claiming to represent Him in their disagreement
- **Does that happen in heaven?**
- Is it **His answer** to our prayer?

If we stand together in **who Christ is...**

- Don't separate from each other over non-essentials
- He doesn't stand in either camp (Abraham Lincoln)
- **He stands on His own**

Joshua 5:13-14, And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a **Man** stood opposite him with **His** sword drawn in **His** hand. And Joshua went to **Him** and said to **Him**, "**Are You for us or for our adversaries?**"

So **He** said, "**No**, but as **Commander** of the army of the Lord I have now come."

Those contending with each other over **who He stands with...**

That being said, let's take a look at what He said **about the kingdom we're asking for...**

- In light of today's culture of worldly wisdom.

Matthew 20:1-16, "For **the kingdom of heaven is like** a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire **laborers for his vineyard**. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.'

"So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.' And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained **against the landowner**, saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and **you made them equal to us** who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. **Did you not agree with me for a denarius?** Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. **Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things?** Or is your eye evil

because I am good?' (12:30) So the last will be first, and the first last. For **many** are called, but **few chosen.**"

Is that considered **fair** in the culture of today's world?

- It's **not a political story** about labor vs. management
- It reveals righteousness **in God's kingdom...**
- Where people are not **evaluated by comparison** to each other
- There are many who would exalt their standards above God's

Whose standards will we **be conformed to?**

- Jesus said we'd be just as popular as Him

"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Whose vineyard (field) is it? His, or ours?

- **Where** is it & **Where is it from?**
- **"On earth as it is in heaven."**

"You made them equal to us"

- Yes, He has... On His terms
- And I'm so thankful for that
- We're all equal at the foot of the Cross!

"Many are called, but few chosen."

- Who are chosen?
- **"Whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (12:48-50)**

John 21:21-22, Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, **what is that to you? You follow Me.**"

- Comparison with others is a temptation we all face

How shall we live **safe & confident** in the kingdom?

- By knowing & living in what He reveals about the kingdom

Matthew 7:24-25, "Therefore whoever **hears** these sayings of Mine, **and does them**, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and **it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.**"