

Entering and Reigning In The Kingdom Part 4
Inhibitors To The Kingdom B

Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

So far in the Gospel of Matthew narrative, Matthew has presented:

The genealogy of the King (1:1-17),

The birth of the King (1:18-25),

The early reaction to the King (2:1-23),

The preparation of the King (3:1-4:11),

And now the declaration of the King (4:12-7:29).

Matthew 4:12 When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. **13** Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—**14** to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: (**Isaiah 9**)

15 "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— **16** the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." **17** **From that time on Jesus began to preach**, "Repent, for the **kingdom of heaven** is near."

Matthew 5:1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,

2 and he began to teach them saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. **13** "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. **14** "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way,

let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. **17** "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. **18** **I tell**

you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. **19** Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever **practices** and **teaches** these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 6:1 "Be careful not to **do** your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you **do**, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. **2** "So when you give to the needy, **do** not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their **reward** in full. **3** But when you give to the needy, **do** not let your left hand know what your right hand is **doing**, **4** so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, **will reward you**. **5** "And when you pray, **do** not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their **reward** in full. **6 But** when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, **will reward you**. **7** And when you pray, **do** not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. **8 Do** not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. **9** "This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' **14** For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **15** But if you **do** not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. **16** "When you fast, **do** not look somber as the hypocrites **do**, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received **their reward** in full. **17** But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, **will reward you**.

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.**20** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **22** "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. **23** But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! **24** "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and Money.** **25** "Therefore I tell you, **do** not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? **26** Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? **27** Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? **28** "And why **do** you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. **29** Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. **30** If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? **31** So **do** not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' **32** For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. **33** But seek **FIRST his kingdom AND his righteousness**, and all these things will be given to you as well. **34** Therefore **do** not worry (*why? Because you are doing v:33 context*) about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.