Welcome to the kingdom! Entry is made to this wonderful new life through the door of Jesus Himself. All may come and enjoy the splendor and bountiful blessings provided by our covenant Partner.

**Hebrews 10:19-20**
19 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness** to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, **through the veil**, that is to say, his flesh;

**John 10:7-9**
7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **I am the door** of the sheep.
8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
9 **I am the door**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Perhaps you may have correctly sensed that this new life is not without its conflicts. Even though Jesus offers numerous fantastic privileges, there remain tough battles. **We must prepare** for them.

**Ephesians 6:12-18**
12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14 **Stand** therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the **breastplate of righteousness**;
15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
18 **Praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Jesus constantly taught how to obtain and maintain citizenship in His kingdom. The full plan began before His ascension. An invisible world surrounds, controls and interacts with our visible world. God’s spiritual kingdom exists here right now! This does not mean that we are in the millennium reign of Christ. There will be a physical kingdom on this earth, that we will all reign with Christ as kings and priests.
Revelation 1:5-6
5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.
6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 5:10
10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Once Jesus puzzled His disciples by saying that some of them would not taste death until they had seen the Son of Man “coming in his kingdom” (Mt 16:28). Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John to a mountain. Before their startled gaze, He was “transfigured”! His face shone like the sun and His garments became shining white. What had been invisible within Him suddenly became visible!

Mark 9:2-4
2 And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.
3 And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.
4 And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.

Standing with Jesus on the mountain were Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the prophets). With Christ’s coming the law and prophets had been fulfilled and the new kingdom was about to begin. If they would “seek first the kingdom.” or “reach into the invisible,” all their visible needs would be met.

Matthew 5:17
17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Jesus reiterated that mankind could enter this limitless, immortal world, and solve every conceivable problem. Once a storm had threatened their ship on the Sea of Galilee and the disciples interrupted the Master’s rest with their plea for help.

Jesus questioned why their faith was weak. Why couldn’t they implement the truths He had been trying to teach? Then He spoke with authority to the winds and calmed the sea. The secret was to by pass visible conditions and to invoke the invisible powers.

One thing the kingdom is not:

Romans 14:17
17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.
The tangible, visible – meat and drink – are completed excluded. Righteousness, peace, and joy are inner qualities that spring forth from the Spirit.

The kingdom of God has a divine government with laws, rules, and a constitution. So unique is kingdom living that it turns ordinary ideas upside down. Prepare for an inner revolution of attitudes and thinking! Humanistic theories programmed into the mind must be discarded. By abandoning these opinions, you will begin to discover new direction, new joys, new goals, and new happiness.

Quite early in His ministry, Jesus began revealing His constitution and fundamental principles. We call it the “Sermon on the Mount.” Most of the concepts are a highly advanced, spiritual version of the same law and principles upon which Israel was founded.

However, this wonderful new life became available after Jesus’ blood legally “redeemed” (at liberty; purchased freedom for) mankind. As our substitute, He was crucified, went into the bowels of the earth, preached unto the spirits in prison, and became the “firstborn” from the dead.

Acts 2:24-27
24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.
25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:
26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:
27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

1 Peter 3:18-19
18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:
19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

Colossians 1:18
18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

B. Except ye become as little Children

Here is another important qualification for entering the kingdom. Many people misunderstand the meaning of this:

Matthew 18:3-4
3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.
4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the
kingdom of heaven.

The answer is found in verse 4. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child. The key was to humble yourself. Synonyms of humble is submissive and meek.

According to dictionary.com:

—Synonyms
1. unpretending, unpretentious. 2. submissive, meek. 3. unassuming, plain, common, poor. 4. polite. 6. mortify, shame, abash. 7. subdue, crush, break.

Submissive - inclined or ready to submit; unresistingly or humbly obedient: submissive servants.

Meek - 1. humbly patient or docile, as under provocation from others. 2. overly submissive or compliant; spiritless; tame.

26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.
27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

Would you like a distinguished leadership position in God’s kingdom? Those who seek to excel are encouraged to do so. Neither special education nor extraordinary skills are required. Simply observe the attitudes of a little child and a servant.

Chart 2 - From Darkness to Light

John 3:19-21
19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.
21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Psalms 118:27-29
27 God is the LORD, which hath showed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.

This referring to the death of Jesus Christ when it said, “bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar”

28 Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee.
29 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.
John 8:12
12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Remember God is the LORD, which hath showed us light!! Jesus Christ is the light!!

1 Timothy 6:13-16
13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;
14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:
15 Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;
16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Jesus Christ is dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto!!

John 1:1-18
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 The same was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.
16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.
17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Hebrews 1:1-3
1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Jesus Christ is the expressed image of his person. Remember God is a Spirit and God is Light. Jesus is dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see.

**Colossians 1:12-21**

12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Jesus Christ is the expressed visible image of the invisible God. Jesus Christ is the body of God.

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

The fulness of the godhead bodily. The Spirit of God dwelling in the body of Jesus Christ. Thus 100% man and 100% God at the same time. Jesus Christ the son of man and the son of God at the same time.

20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

**2 Corinthians 5:19**

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

**Chart 6 - A Holy People, Separated unto God**
1 Peter 1:15-16
15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Here we are told that not only must we be Holy, but God is Holy and our conversation should also be Holy.

So what does it mean to be Holy?? According to the Compact Bible Dictionary by Nelson’s Compact Series, the word holy means: Moral and ethical wholeness or perfection; freedom from moral evil. The Hebrew word for Holy denotes that which is “sanctified” or “set apart” for divine service. The main use is to describe God’s righteous nature or the ethical righteousness demanded of His followers.

Holiness is so important to God, that He not only let’s us know that we must also be Holy, but we are told in.....

Hebrews 12:14
14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Therefore Holiness is Essential to Salvation.

As we have learned from the definition of Holy we must be sanctified or set apart; with moral wholeness or perfection; free from moral evil.

This is also a good time to explain that Righteousness and Holiness are not the same thing. We are told in.....

Romans 5:17
17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Righteousness is a free Gift of God imputed to us after we have shown obedient faith to what God has commanded of us. This obedient faith is shown by putting forth the action necessary to achieve what we have claimed to have believed of God.

So we do not earn righteousness or obtain it as if it were a debt earned by us from our works. Instead it is freely given as a Gift for our obedience to God’s Word. Holiness on the other hand, is something we perfect over time as we make our journey to the Lord.

Before you begin to work on perfecting Holiness, you must first partake of being born again, as Jesus commanded His followers to do, so that they would be able to enter the Kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18
14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness
with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?
16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.
18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.
7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

This is where our Journey takes us after we have been Born Again of the water and of the Spirit. A Life of separation, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. A life of moral excellence, now dead or separated from the World and the lusts thereof. No longer fulfilling the lusts of the flesh, but now walking after the Spirit of Christ which now resides inside of us.

Even though God has chosen to save us by His Grace, many people have turned the Grace of God into lasciviousness. Let’s quickly get an understanding of what the grace of God teaches us since many false teachers have distorted the meaning.

Titus 2:11-13
11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,
12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Sounds a whole lot like what we have already been discussing. That is after being Born again, we are to live a separated life from the world perfecting Holiness in the fear of God. These are the instructions for how to pursue a Holy Life. Deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. Then live soberly, righteously, and godly.

If you are confused as to what is considered worldly lusts, The answer can be found in ...

1 John 2:15-17
15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Let me take a brief moment here to reinforce to you what we have learned this far. After we have
been born again, we are to **perfect holiness** in the fear of God, by applying what the Grace of God teaches us, since it is by His grace that we have been able to partake of His death, burial, and resurrection.

**This Grace of God teaches** us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, because all that is in the world is **the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**, and not of the Father but the world. And now that we **have separated ourselves** from the lust of the world, we now are told to **live soberly, righteously, and godly** in this present world.

**2 Peter 1:2-3**

2  Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,  
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:**

**The word virtue means:** moral excellence; goodness; upright; righteousness.

Now that you understand what it means to be Holy and how you go about perfecting Holiness, let’s take some time to address a few **common topics** many people want to do, and have argued that these things have nothing to do with Holiness.

**Make-up.** Many people have said they should be able to wear make-up, and have even tried to address this issue with questions like, “what is to much make-up and who decides on these things?”

**The answer is not hard.** We just read what John told us. **Love not the world,** neither the things **that are in the world.** If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, **the lust of the flesh**, and **the lust of the eyes**, and **the pride of life**, is not of the Father, **but is of the world.**

Wearing make-up **has nothing to do with the Spiritual,** but everything to do with **the carnal.** Does not the wearing of make-up fall under the Lust of the Flesh, the Lust of the eyes, and the pride of life? **It falls under all three categories.**

**Romans 8:6-8**

6  For **to be carnally minded is death;** but to be spiritually minded is **life and peace.**  
7  Because the **carnal mind is enmity against God:** for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.  
8  So then **they that are in the flesh cannot please God.**

**Another topic** many times fought against is the wearing of shorts or dresses that are above the knee.

**How can one consider this to be Holy and virtuous** since we learned that these two words mean to be sanctified; **Moral wholeness and perfection, moral excellence, and upright.**
By the definition of these two words wearing clothing that reveals your body for all to see, could not be considered Holy and Virtuous. These definitions speak of moral excellence, perfection, and uprightness. The exposing of your body has everything to do with the world and the lusts thereof.

Romans 8:13
13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

This is also a good time to possibly clear up the air if need be. I am not speaking of anything extraordinary. I am speaking of dressing in a manner that is not conducive of drawing unnecessary attention from the opposite sex to some part of your body. And wearing tight clothing or not having enough clothing on, IS CERTAINLY conducive of drawing unnecessary attention to certain parts of your body.

1 Peter 5:4-5
4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.
5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be dressed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Clothe yourself in Humility and be subject one to another!! That applies to everyone!!

1 Timothy 2:8-10
8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.
9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;
10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

Here we have been told by Apostle Paul how women should adorn themselves. Let’s discuss each of these starting with.....

Modest apparel, as I stated above, will not be conducive of drawing unnecessary attention from the opposite sex to some part of your body. Whether it is because of you wearing too tight of clothing or the lack thereof, both are wrong and both are immodest.

The Greek word translated for shamefacedness.

127. aidos, ahee-doce'; perh. form G1 (as a neg. particle) and G1492 (through the idea of downcast eyes); bashffulness, i.e. (towards men), modesty or (towards God) awe:--reverence, shamefacedness.

The word sobriety means: a manner that is serious and solemn. Graveness.
This is what Apostle Paul has told us concerning women which profess godliness.

1 Peter 3:3-6
3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;
4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Wow!!! To be looked at in the sight of God as of a great price!, Invaluable!!! What saint of God wouldn’t strive to be looked at in the eyes of God as of a great price?????

5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:
6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

The Apostle Peter has identified that the daughters of Sara are the Holy women who 1) trusted in God, 2) were adorned with a meek and a quiet spirit, and 3) were under subjection unto their husbands. To be under subjection means you must be obedient too.

This is very important!! This should not be offensive. This is the perfect plan of God in accordance with His Righteous Judgments.

Genesis 3:16
16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

Hear the Words of the Lord!!

Matthew 11:6
6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

We do not want to be offended at the Word of God. Listen to the interpretation of the parable of the sower.

Matthew 13:18-23
18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Listen to what Jesus tells us concerning the next set of people.

20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and
anon with joy receiveth it;
21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.

What a dangerous and scary place to be. The Lord has just said the seed that fell on the stony ground, was those who have no root, and when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, they are offended.

An example of this is what we have been discussing in which the woman hears that she is to be in subjection to her husband and becomes offended. We are told the problem lies in not having deep roots.

Luke 8:15
15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

These people, we are told, have an honest and a good heart, and they not only hear the word, they keep it. Let this be who you are. One who hears and obeys.

This walk is about pleasing God and fulfilling His will. Obedience is the only way to Heaven. If you study the Word of God, and subject yourself to them that have the rule over you, including the ministry, you would understand that there is no reason to be offended at the Word of God, which is the Truth and is our Life, for your roots would grow deep and you would then produce much fruit with patience over time.

1 Corinthians 11:1-3
1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.
2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.
3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

We are all under authority in this life. Therefore let each of us keep our roles.

James 3:13-15
13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

Psalms 149:4
4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Romans 12:1-2
1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living
sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Here Apostle Paul has told us that presenting ourselves a living sacrifice is our reasonable service. That means it’s only fair that we should offer ourselves a sacrifice to God since Jesus Christ also offered himself a sacrifice for us all that we may be reconciled again unto God.

Again in the previous verse we are told to not be conformed to this world but rather transformed from the world.

The word transform means: to change in condition, nature, or character; convert.

1 Corinthians 6:19
19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Notice it says, “glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are Gods.” The clothing you put upon your body matters. For ye are bought with a price!!

That price was the precious blood of Jesus Christ!!

1 Peter 2:5, 9
5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

We are no longer our own!! We now have become a royal priesthood, that offers up spiritual sacrifices, unto the Lord. A people now called unto the showing forth of praises to Him that has called us out of darkness into His marvellous light.