

Of First Importance 2!

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus taught the disciples how to pray. The first request Jesus made is this: ***“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven!”***

I wrote an article about this stating that because Jesus' first request in His model prayer is our participation in the Kingdom of God doing the will of the Father, this is what should be of first importance in our own prayers and in our own lives.

While Jesus was upon the earth He taught of the coming of this kingdom of God. This kingdom was the subject of the prophets. In Isaiah, the 11th chapter, He describes the rule of the Messiah in this wonderful kingdom.

In the book of Daniel, king Nebuchadnezzar had a dream of a huge statue with a head of gold, its chest and arms were of silver, its middle and thighs were of bronze, and its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. And as he looked at it a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay and broke this whole image to pieces. It became like chaff on the threshing floor which blew away.

Starting in verse 36 of Daniel, chapter 2, Daniel gives Nebuchadnezzar God's interpretation of this dream. The head of gold represented Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian kingdom. The silver, the bronze, the iron and the iron mixed with clay represent other world dominating kingdoms of the earth. Yet the interpretation which represents this kingdom Jesus built is described in verses 44 & 45: ***“And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”***

This kingdom is the subject of Jesus' prayer. It should be the subject of mine and your prayers also. This is the only kingdom on earth that will endure time. It contains men and women of faith who are subjects of our Father's will because we bow down to Jesus God's only Son. When the world is destroyed and gone, the only thing which shall remain for heaven is this kingdom. And people who are ruled by God are a blessing upon the earth. It is a wonderful eternal kingdom. I am proud to be a part of it.

God bless your place in this eternal kingdom of God. Cherish your place in it!