

There are two kingdoms. The kingdom of the world, which we are born into, and the Kingdom of God which we choose to enter by making Jesus Lord of our lives.

It's "all or nothing" because we cannot serve two masters, there's no dual citizenship in the Kingdom of God.

[Mat 13:44-46 NIV](#), ⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. ⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Everyone is on one of these paths. Everyone belongs to a kingdom.

[2 Peter 3:8-9 NIV](#), “do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

[1 Corinthians 2:12 NIV](#), “What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.” The first thing we choose to receive after we have been born again into the Kingdom of God is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary to be able to understand everything that God has given us.

Our decisions to give priority to the Kingdom of God over the kingdom of this world is a continual effort.

[Ephesians 5:15-17 NIV](#), “Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.” We do this by being filled with the Spirit and allowing Him to continually make adjustments to how we live.

The Holy Spirit gives us the understanding to see worldly situations for what they really are and to discern the schemes of our enemy who seeks only to steal, kill and destroy.

It also takes great discipline to continually walk under the discipleship of Jesus.

[Matthew 16:24 NIV](#), “Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.’”

When we surrender our lives to serve Christ in the Kingdom of God, we simultaneously acknowledge that the way we used to live our lives was selfish.

It's not difficult to make a decision if you know what you believe in.

“in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” ([Romans 8:28 NIV](#))

We go to God in prayer, we seek the truth in His Word, and we trust the wise counsel of other members of the Kingdom.

“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline” ([2 Timothy 1:7 NIV](#)).

[Matthew 25:1-13 NIV](#), Jesus describes the Kingdom of Heaven in the last days to “be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.”

We must wake up! We cannot be lazy about the way we live as people who have been given the keys to the Kingdom of God.

It's not enough to just repent, we have to *be repentant*.

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” ([Ephesians 4:1-3 NIV](#))

[Revelation 11:15 NIV](#), “The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.’” The two kingdoms will be one when Christ returns, and those who are prepared will enter the banquet with the bridegroom.