

ROMANS 14:17, for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God. We hear a lot about it, sing about it and do our very best to exemplify its values and culture. We pray for it to be established on earth. (MATTHEW 6:10) The kingdom of God cannot be legislated and it is not political. The Kingdom cannot be established or enforced by electing a believer no matter how great is his devotion the Lord. That is not to say that we should not seek to place Godly people in places of authority in government, but we must understand this will not result in the Kingdom established in a place. God's people should embrace holiness and purity, but abstaining from certain activities or what we eat or drink, can never effectively establish the Kingdom.

According to the word, the Kingdom of God is an inward work of righteousness, peace and joy in His Spirit. It is not found in what one does or does not do in the flesh but is found in the place of complete and total security in the finished work of Jesus on the cross and the truth that the indwelling Holy Spirit has sealed us in His love. Out of that place of trust and honor in the Lord, we can make decisions and walk out our salvation in freedom and confidence without crippling burden of having to perform to confirm we are a part of the Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is about character being developed with-in that then produces proper lifestyle choices based on the law of love. Anything else will ultimately result in a cold, legalistic attempt at a relationship with God. Beloved, the Holy Spirit is calling us to come out from the fruitless, barren life of trying to earn our place in the Kingdom to a life filled with the joy and peace that only a true, intimate relationship with the Father can bring. Jesus has called us to that abundant life. May our heart's cry in this hour be "Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in my life, Oh Lord!" Glory awaits!