

# The requirements for entering the Kingdom of Heaven.

By Pastor Malton Cassim

*John 3 : 1-5 (KJV)*

Heaven is a beautiful place where God dwells and people of all kinds that believe in that place desire to go there. It is God's ultimate desire that when one dies they will enter heaven. Even though this is God's desire, there is a requirement to enter heaven. One night a man by the name of Nicodemus who was a Jewish leader came to Jesus by night to talk to him about the miracles he observed him performing and Jesus began to explain to him the importance of being born again and it being the only way one can enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

*"There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" *John 3:1-5.**

Jesus teaches more about this and ultimately shows us that He is the Way to the Father, Who is in heaven.

*"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me". *John 14 : 2-6** There is a notion that says, "once saved always saved." We wish this can be true but it is not. God requires us to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling because it's possible to lose it.

*"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" *Philippians 2 : 12** Many believers take it for granted that because they accepted Jesus as Lord, they can continue to live in sin and the grace of God will be there to take care of that. God is gracious but grace was not given to us to use it as an excuse to sin but to enable us to live out the will of God. Jesus said something very alarming about this type of lose living.

*"Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" *Matthew 7 : 21-23.**

The phrase "Not everyone that says to me Lord Lord" is very important to understand. The Lord showed me that there are three kinds of people that can say "Lord Lord." Firstly, is the one that genuinely calls him "Lord Lord" because this person does the will of God. Secondly is the one that's a believer but is compromising with the world; this person can't be doing the will of God because you can't do the will of God and love the world at the same time. The third kind of person is the one that's not born again but just religiously calls him Lord. This is a very sobering thought if we really believe the word of God to be truth. By rightfully dividing the word of truth it appears that the only one that will enter the Kingdom of Heaven is the one that says Lord Lord and his doing the will of God. The word Lord means master and we servants obey their masters. If we are calling Jesus Lord, it's should mean that we're obeying his instructions. What is the will of God since this is the only access into Heaven?

There is the formalities of Christianity and the character of Christianity. The formalities are as follows; attend church service, give an offering, clap your hands to choruses ect. With this it is still possible to not make it into heaven. Paul calls it "having the form of godliness, but denying the power thereof". The character of Christianity is walking in righteousness, holiness and love. This is the will of God and every command in the word of God given to you is born out of these traits. It does not mean that one will not commit a sin having these traits, but it does mean that he will not practice sinful worldly pleasurable living; that's the difference. We must not misinterpret the love of God thinking that he will excuse his laws for our sake; we have been called to do his will and not ours. Let us examine ourselves in this regard for God is not a man that will lie.