

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: NEIGHBOR - Love your neighbor for God's sake, and God for your own sake, who created all things for your sake, and redeemed you for His mercy's sake. If your love hath any other motive, it is false love: if your motive hath any other end, it is self-love. If you neglect your love to your neighbor, in vain you profess your love of God: for by your love of God, your love to your neighbor is acquired: and by your love to your neighbor, your love of God is nourished.

~The Beauties of Thought

TRANSLATED INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD
by Jacquie McCall – Scotland

Colossians 1:13 says that we're translated into the kingdom of God...

Therefore, it is our job to live as citizens of heaven rather than citizens of the world. We MUST be focusing on heavenly things rather than worldly things. Again the Word tells us that we're IN the world but NOT of the world; we should be different. Our lives should be examples of God love and truth. We should have a heavenly focus rather than a worldly focus. We're in the world yes, but worldly pleasures, pursuits and 'things' should hold nothing for us, and we should be constantly living for God, constantly living for the kingdom of Heaven. We ARE NOT OF the world—we're only travelling through, we're only IN the world WITH A SPECIFIC JOB TO DO. We're citizens of heaven here on the earth. We're ambassadors of heaven here on the earth!! How amazing is that? But more importantly how come, in many cases, we're not reflecting that? Our lives aren't showing that because often we're focused on "self" and the pleasures that this world holds for us instead of being focused on God, on the Kingdom of Heaven and the amazing treasures that are for us both now and eternally.

Think about it, what do YOU put first, worldly pursuits and pleasures or heavenly pursuits and pleasures? Where would you rather be; partying with friends, watching T.V., chatting on the phone or online, playing online games, etc. OR fellowshiping, worshipping and praying with other believers, while ministering to someone who needs you? Whatever answer you HONESTLY give to that question is a good indication of where your heart REALLY is.

We must be showing ourselves to be REAL citizens of heaven, not through a fake, worldly effort because we know we should, but because we WANT to. Our purpose is not to win praises or accolades from man because we want everyone to "think" we're saved, but through a genuine heart of love for our Saviour, and through a genuine understanding that the earth, universe and everything in it is God's. And we have the authority of Jesus Christ to bring the Kingdom of Heaven onto the earth for His glory, for His gain so that His purposes might be fulfilled through us. Jesus tells us that no one lights a light and then hides it, but all too often we hide our light by being no different than those in the world. We're still focused and fixed on worldly pleasures rather than heavenly ones.

PEOPLE, it's OUR JOB to be taking this world back for Jesus, with Him leading us, guiding us and showing us, that there's a spiritual battle going on in the world. It's a battle for the souls of men, and like it or not we're in it!! Come on, get focused! Get a real grasp of what our job involves here on earth. Get into prayer and start praying against those strongholds in your life. AGREE WITH JESUS WHEN HE SAYS

HE HAS GIVEN YOU A NEW LIFE. AGREE WITH JESUS WHEN HE SAYS HE CAME TO SET YOU FREE. WALK IN THAT NEW LIFE! WALK IN THAT FREEDOM! SHOW THE WORLD THAT YOU HAVE INDEED BEEN TRANSLATED INTO GOD'S KINGDOM, AND YOU ARE IN FACT A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN!!!

Begin to pray that God would break down strongholds in your family, community and surrounding areas. Get together and be of like heart and like mind with other believers. We can, through the power of God, take this nation back for Him... we MUST, as that is the believer's calling. The Kingdom of God is IN US, we need to be letting it out, shinning forth God's light. We need to be stepping out in faith and remember that through HIM, we DO have the authority to break down the enemy's strongholds. We DO have the authority to go into battle and reclaim areas that he has taken; whether we have given it away or he has stolen it. IT'S OUR JOB TO DO THIS!!!! GET MOVING!!!! GET OFF THE SIDE LINES!!! If you don't know what you're doing or are on your own, then begin by praying that God will lead you to a fellowship of believers who think this way. Seek out and get connected into a group of believers who are already doing this and join them. WHATEVER IT TAKES, DO IT!!!

Come on people; are you for God or against Him? Are you part of the Kingdom of God or aren't you? If you ARE, then you cannot sit back while others do the work. You cannot take Jesus out of His little box on a Sunday when you attend church, and then pop Him back into the box on the way out of the door until the next Sunday service. You need to LIVE for Jesus it in EVERY area of your life!! You need to show that you are truly seeking the Kingdom of God and HIS righteousness. Seek not in your own strength, but in His strength. Seek Him through prayer, the Word, worship, and meetings with other believers who have the same passion and zeal for the Kingdom of God as you do.

Are you willing to stand tall for Jesus? Are you willing to let Him change your life, or are worldly pleasures still at the forefront of your mind? Start making wiser choices. The things of God should ALWAYS be at the forefront of your heart and mind and everything else that is not of God, should be cast away. It's time to start fervently seeking Him.

PONDER UPON THIS TRUTH: A winner will search for truth. He will seek the deeper meaning. A loser says, "Nobody knows!" a winner admits his mistakes while a loser says, "It wasn't my fault!" a winner works harder than a loser! He is busy, but he focuses on what is essential or important in life. The loser is always "too busy" to do what is necessary. A winner goes through problems and the loser goes around the problems and often, never gets past them. A winner makes commitments. The loser makes promises. Commitment is a strong, bold vow. Promise is weak and shallow.

BOTTOM LINE: ARE YOU LIVING AS A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN?
OR ARE YOU CONTINUING TO LIVE AS A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD?

OUR GUIDELINE IS THE WORD OF GOD:

Matthew 6:21, "Where your treasure is there your heart is also..."

Luke 6:45, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Ephesians 3:17, “That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

“You are here for a purpose. There is not a duplicate of you in the whole wide world; there never has been, there never will be. You were brought here now to fill a certain need. Take time to think that over.”

~Lou Austin