

# THE TRUE GOSPEL

## 100 SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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### WISDOM THAT IS NEAR TO THE KINGDOM

Mar 12:28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

Mar 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments [is], Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

Mar 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment.

Mar 12:31 And the second [is] like, [namely] this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Mar 12:32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:

Mar 12:33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love [his] neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

Mar 12:34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the **KINGDOM OF GOD**. And no man after that durst ask him [any question].

Note: The Greek word for 'discreetly' is 'noungechos' and besides discreetly means wisely and prudently. Discretion means having or showing discernment or good judgment in conduct and especially in speech. Consider that in all questions that Jesus was asked, he answered with wisdom, prudence and discretion according to the word and will of God.

Mar 11:27 is the beginning of this discussion that took place when Jesus had come to Jerusalem and was walking in the temple. The Chief Priests, Scribes and Elders first came to him asking by what authority he did these things. After he had answered this, he told them the parable of the wicked husbandmen. They perceived that he spoke the parable against them; and when they left him they sent to him the Pharisees and Herodians to catch him in his words. These asked him whether it was lawful to give tribute to Caesar. When he had answered this, the Sadducees came and asked which of seven men who married the same wife would have her in the resurrection. Finally, having perceived that he had answered all the questions well, this Scribe asked him the question about the greatest commandment. In answering the question Jesus quoted Deut 6:4-5. There are several scriptures in the law about loving God, but none that says this is the first of all the commandments. Jesus added this to our understanding.

Notice that the Scribe also added to our understanding in his answer that to love God is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. There are other scriptures in the Old Testament telling us how God does not delight in sacrifices, but none that says that to love God is better than sacrifice. The Scribe's answer shows how he might have thoughtfully reasoned in his heart

that if obedience is better to God than sacrifice (1Sa 15:22) and doing justice and judgment is better to God than sacrifice (Prov 21:3) , then it is reasonable to think that to love God is also better to him than sacrifice.

Jesus commended the Scribe by saying, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God”. Why did Jesus say this?

One thing we know about the coming Kingdom of God is that just before the Kingdom begins, Satan will be shut up in a pit so that he can no longer deceive the nations during the thousand-year reign of Jesus.

\* Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

So in his Kingdom, there will be no more worldwide deception about God as there is today. All men will come to know God the Father and Jesus Christ in person, to experience firsthand their wonderful character, their great wisdom.

\* Hbr 8:10 For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Hbr 8:11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

\* Isa 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

\* 1Cor 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

Perhaps Jesus saw that the Scribe displayed a remarkable personal knowledge of God by what he said. This is the kind of knowledge about God that all men shall have in the Kingdom of God.