

Who is the **GREATEST** in the Kingdom of God?

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked,
‘Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’”

Matthew 18:1

Jesus invited a little child to stand among them. ‘Truly I tell you,’ He said, ‘**unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.**’ Therefore, whoever **humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.** And whoever welcomes **a little child like this in My name welcomes Me.** But if anyone causes one of these little ones **who believe in Me to stumble**, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world for the causes of sin. These stumbling blocks must come, but woe to the man through whom they come!’” (Matthew 18:1-7).



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The child Jesus brought among them radiated the characteristics of those who God Almighty deems as the greatest in His Kingdom. The child brought clarity to the meaning of sonship in God’s family by being a living example of awe and excitement for the word of God—eager to listen, humble and trusting, reverent and loving.

Jesus said that those who take on these precious traits will in turn be emulating him. Jesus is the perfect example for mankind of that child.

OUR HUMBLE SAVIOR

JESUS CHRIST DOES NOT SEEK SELF-GLORY

“He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. Like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised, and we esteemed him not” (Isaiah 53:2-3).

When Jesus was on earth, his appearance was ordinary. He did not seek to win the affection of mankind through good looks, but by bringing them to love the word of God. He did nothing to bring attention or glory to himself, but to bring mankind to acknowledge and glorify God. He was willing to accept denial from the Jews, if only they would recognize the miracles that he did, as a direct result of receiving power from God.

“If I am not doing the works of My Father, then do not believe Me. But if I am doing them, EVEN THOUGH YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME, believe the works themselves, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father” (John 10:37-38).

In the 21st century, men who do not have any supernatural abilities, yet sit in a place of authority would not hesitate to subdue their opposition and demand respect, but Jesus, our humble savior, lives by the gospel of peace.

JESUS CHRIST CAME TO SERVE

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45).

Learn from Jesus through his example of gentility and his humble spirit that fills his heart. The drive to seek our own way and revel in self-glory, attention seeking and self-reliance is the way of the pagans taught to them by their rogue heavenly rulers, powers and authorities. Peace is found when complete trust in God is given to Him and unrelenting belief that wisdom, understanding and truth comes only from Almighty God.

“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:29-30).

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

“Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life” (Proverbs 22:4).

Those who war against Almighty God, our Father in heaven will lose and they will not find peace living in wickedness.

JESUS CHRIST DOES NOT SEEK HIS OWN AGENDA

“Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, HE HUMBLLED HIMSELF and became OBEDIENT TO DEATH—even DEATH ON A CROSS” (Philippians 2:6-8).

The core of Christ is to do the will of his Father. He does not seek to challenge his Father—“did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,”(Philippians 2:6) instead he remains a humble servant, even to the point of being beaten beyond human recognition, shamed and death on the cross. His love for his church and mankind is without a doubt, genuine and eternal. His capacity to love goes beyond the ability of mortals. Only by being God can this sacrificial love be expressed.

It will be both a deeply emotional and humbling revelation for mankind when they learn that Jesus who is God—the Son, willingly submitted to becoming mortal and suffering, so that he could save mankind and truly understand the human experience—the weaker vessel and intercede for mankind before God, His Father.

“For this reason, he had to be made like his brothers in every way, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, in order to make atonement for the sins of the people” (Hebrews 2:17).

His sacrifice for his church and all of mankind demonstrates the depth of his commitment for our success and his love, which flows out “wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 3:18-19).

Christ puts his comfort aside to preserve righteousness and restore the kingdom of God to the way it was before iniquity was found. He has won many heavenly battles unseen by human eye to overthrow Wickedness. He wears today, many crowns. He is the rider on the white horse.

“...before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war... on his head are many crowns... his name is the Word of God” (Revelation 19:11-13).

The greatest in God’s kingdom is the servant of all; he/she will rule with Christ.

BUT...

Woe to the trouble-makers who intentionally put stumbling blocks before these precious people of God. Woe to the angry rebels who bully God’s servants on earth. Woe to the God-haters bent on tricking and deceiving the babes in Christ. Woe to those who sow wickedness

and delight in the choking of God's word. Woe to those who live in pride and arrogantly suppress the spiritual growth of God's repenting people. Woe to those who carelessly ignore the scratches and bruises on God's people walking on unpaved roads. Woe to those who feed themselves the meat of God's word and leave mere scraps for the starving children of God. Jesus declared that if these dark instruments of Wickedness harm the spiritual walk of repentant, vulnerable people growing in God's ways that it would be better for them to have a very large heavy weight chained around their neck and be thrown into the depths of the sea **never to rise up again**. These people have no place in God's kingdom.

After the end of this age and the resurrection of all of the righteous, God's family in eternity will comprise only of God-fearing, God-loving, humble servants giving full honour to the power and glory of their Father in heaven—the ALMIGHTY GOD. In this newly restored peace, God will then create a "new heaven and a new earth" (Revelation 21:1) and a great honour will be bestowed on this new earth. Beyond human reasoning, the GREAT GOD will move His throne to earth and live among men. "They will be His people, and God himself will be with them and be their God" (Revelation 21:3).

Who can know the fortunes of mankind that lies within the heart of God to move His great throne and temple to be close to mankind, the weaker vessel with a history of sinning? Nevertheless, never question the wisdom of God, hold fast to this wonder and treasure it.

This is the inheritance offered to mankind. It was always part of God's plan—from our beginning. "So, don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives **your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom**" (Luke 12:32).

ALL THIS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR HUMBLE SAVIOR

Follow him, grow in humility and teachability; lean not on your own understanding; lean on the Teacher [Christ]—our only Teacher; learn only through him, then share his teachings with your brothers and sisters—your brethren in Christ serving them, as the least of all servants.

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