Nov. 1, 2020

Greeting to all . . .

 First of all, I would like to say **“Don’t forget to VOTE!"** And I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. The Bible Scripture Letter for this month is **“Those Who Will / Will Not Enter the Kingdom of God”.**On my first cover letter, I wrote “have you ever been in a discussion with someone and you know there is scripture in the bible about the subject but you didn’t know where it was?” Well, here are some more scriptures you can use as reference for this topic. I personally have referred to some of these scriptures on many occasions but I have to confess, I don’t know them all and that’s why I keep a copy readily available.

I hope you take the time and read these scriptures. I know it's long but you could set time aside to read one or two pages in one sitting. You may block a certain time aside daily to commit to scripture reading. Sometimes, you may not read it daily but go back to your commitment and just maybe you’ll read it more than once.

God Bless and let’s get started.

Your Brother in Christ, Tony Gonzalez

**1 Peter 3:15**

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

**Those Who Will / Will Not Enter the Kingdom of God**

**Bible Scripture Letter #7**

*(English Standard Version – ESV)*

**Matthew**

[**Matthew 3:2**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+4%3A17&version=ESV)

* “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand

[**Matthew 4:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+4%3A17&version=ESV)

* From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

[**Matthew 5:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A3&version=ESV)

* “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[**Matthew 5:10**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A10&version=ESV)

* “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:19**

* Therefore, whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

[**Matthew 5:20**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A20&version=ESV)

* For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

[**Matthew 6:31-33**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A31-33&version=ESV)

* **31** Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’
* **32** For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.
* **33**  But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

[**Matthew 7:13-14**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+7%3A13-14&version=ESV)

* **13** “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.
* **14** For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

**[Matthew 7:21-23](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+7%3A21-23&version=ESV)**

* **21** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
* **22** On that day, many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’
* **23**  And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

[**Matthew 12:28**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+12%3A28&version=ESV)

* But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

[**Matthew 13:11**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+13%3A11&version=ESV)

* And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

[**Matthew 13:44**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+13%3A44&version=ESV)

* “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

[**Matthew 13:45-46**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+13%3A45-46&version=ESV)

* **45** “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,
* **46** who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

 [**Matthew 16:19**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+16%3A19&version=ESV)

* I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you lose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

[**Matthew 18:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18%3A3&version=ESV)

* And said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

[**Matthew 19:14**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+19%3A14&version=ESV)

* But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”

[**Matthew 19:23**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+19%3A23&version=ESV)**-24**

* **23** And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven.
* **24** Again, I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

[**Matthew 19:28**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+19%3A28&version=ESV)

* Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

[**Matthew 21:28-32**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+21%3A28-32&version=ESV)

* **28** “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’
* **29** And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went.
* **30** And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go.
* **31** Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.
* **32** For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

[**Matthew 23:13**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+23%3A13&version=ESV)

* “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.

[**Matthew 25:34**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+25%3A34&version=ESV)

* Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

**Mark**

[**Mark 1:15**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+1%3A15&version=ESV)

* And saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

[**Mark 9:35-37**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+9%3A35-37&version=ESV)

* **35**  And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”
* **36** And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,
* **37** “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

[**Mark 9:47**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+9%3A47&version=ESV)

* And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell,

[**Mark 10:14-15**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A14-15&version=ESV)

* **14** But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.
* **15**  Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

[**Mark 10:23**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A23&version=ESV)

* And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”

[**Mark 10:25**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A25&version=ESV)

* It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”

**Luke**

[**Luke 9:62**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+9%3A62&version=ESV)

* Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

[**Luke 11:20**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+11%3A20&version=ESV)

* But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

[**Luke 12:32**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+12%3A32&version=ESV)

* “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

 [**Luke 13:24**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+13%3A24&version=ESV)

* “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

[**Luke 18:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+18%3A17&version=ESV)

* Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

**John**

[**John 3:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A3&version=ESV)

* Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Top of Form

**John 3:4-7**

* **4**  Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?”
* **5**  Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
* **6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
* **7**  Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’

**John 5 : 24**

* Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

[**John 3:16**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A16&version=ESV)

* “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**John 10:27-28**

* **27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
* **28** I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

**Acts**

**Acts 4:12**

* "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

[**Acts 8:12**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+8%3A12&version=ESV)

* But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

[**Acts 14:22**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+14%3A22&version=ESV)

* strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God

**Romans**

**Romans 1:24-32**

* **24** Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,
* **25**  because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.
* **26** For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;
* **27** and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.
* **28**  And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.
* **29** They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,
* **30** slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,
* **31** foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.
* **32** Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

**Romans 6:23**

* For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[**Romans 14:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+14%3A17&version=ESV)

* For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**1 Corinthians1**

**Corinthians 6:9-10**

* **9**  Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,
* **10** nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

[**1 Corinthians 15:50-52**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A50-52&version=ESV)

* **50**  I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
* **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

**2 Corinthians**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

* Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Corinthians+5&version=ESV#fen-ESV-28878b)] The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

**Galatians**

[**Galatians 5:19-21**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+5%3A19-21&version=ESV)

* **19**  Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,
* **20**  idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,
* **21** envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Ephesians**

[**Ephesians 5:5**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+5%3A5&version=ESV)

* For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

**Philippians**

[**Philippians 3:20**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3%3A20&version=ESV)

* But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

**Colossians**

[**Colossians 1:13**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+1%3A13&version=ESV)

* He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

**2 Thessalonians**

[**2 Thessalonians 1:5**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A5&version=ESV)

* This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering—

**1 Timothy**

**1 Timothy 1:8-11**

* **8** Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully,
* **9** understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers,
* **10** the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine,
* **11**  in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

**James**

[**James 2:5**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James+2%3A5&version=ESV)

* Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?

**1 John**

**1 John 5:12**

* He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**Revelation**

[**Revelation 3:20**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+3%3A20&version=ESV)

* Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

[**Revelation 5:10**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+5%3A10&version=ESV)

* And you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

**Revelation 11:15**

* Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”

[**Revelation 20:6**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+20%3A6&version=ESV)

* Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

**Leviticus**

**Leviticus 18:22-23**

* **22**  You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.
* **23** And you shall not lie with any animal and so make yourself unclean with it, neither shall any woman give herself to an animal to lie with it: it is perversion.