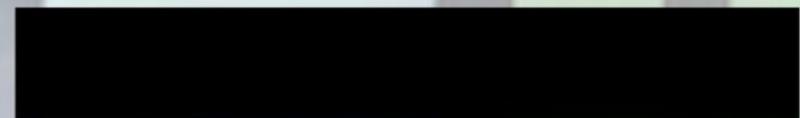


**THY KINGDOM COME:**



# **OVERCOMING THE SIN OF MEDIOCRITY**

*Bishop Felton Hawkins*



## **Matthew 5:38-47**

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

- The law of the kingdom does not promote the idea of mediocre or 'lukewarm' as the Bible puts it. It is clear how God feels about that status when we read his letter to the Laodicean church.

## **Revelation 3:16**

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

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- We see this in the parables consistently. It points to the fact that God is not impressed with us just maintaining or always in a deficit. The man with the talent is just one example.
  - The kingdom operates by profitability, increase, and abundance. There are consequences when we don't operate as such. The lack of profitability makes the principles of the kingdom more difficult to achieve.

## **Matthew 5:38-47**

40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

## **Matthew 5:38-47**

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

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- It is almost impossible to achieve these standards in the kingdom of God when you are walking and living in lack.
  - You can't give what you don't have. You can't live a bankrupt life and expect to have great success in life.
  - So many of us are living out of a deficit. It is very difficult to be happy and effective when we live out of a deficit in life.

## **Luke 12:15-32**

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

## **Luke 12:15-32**

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

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- Jesus warns us about covetousness, greed, and being consumed with material things.
  - He warns us about being overly dependent on the material possessions we need in order to have an affluent life on earth and yet become spiritually bankrupt and depleted.

## **Luke 12:15-32**

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

## Luke 12:15-32

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

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

- Jesus says we don't have to worry because it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

## **Philippians 2:13-14**

13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

## **Hebrews 10:38-39**

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

## **Revelation 4:11**

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

## Genesis 45:4-8

4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.