2-2-2020 Weekly Message Meditation of the week: Psalms 24; 1-10 Text: Matthew 16: 28-17: 1-13 Word title: <u>Let us be co- workers of Christ to build his kingdom six later !days</u>

Jesus told his people Israel to pray to show what the Father's will is:

## "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10).

He said that the purpose of his coming down to the earth from heaven was to accomplish the Father's will. In other words, the first man who did not overcome Satan's temptation handed over the earth, which God had given him, to Satan, and told his people to pray for the Father's will, knowing that the earth had become Satan's kingdom.

But because God's people did not receive Him, God planned to make those who receive the Son of God into God's children and fulfill the Father's will through them. Apostle John testified of this:

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

13Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."(John 1:11-13)

God, through His only-begotten Son Jesus, to establish His kingdom first in the land of Israel, through the prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist came first and prepared the way for the King Jesus to come:

"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight
in the desert a highway for our God.
4Every valley shall be exalted, and every
mountain and hill shall be made low: and the
crooked shall be made straight, and the rough
places plain:

## <u>5And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,</u> and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

"(Isa. 40:3-5)

John the Baptist, who was the voice of the one who cried out in the wilderness to fulfill the prophet Isaiah's prophecy, cried out to the Jews in the wilderness of Judea to prepare the way for the Lord Jesus who came in the glory of the God:

## "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 3: 2)

But they killed John the baptism prophesied by the prophet Isaiah, and did not receive their King Jesus, but executed him on the cross. Israel is still suffering under Satan's rule.

Jesus foretold that the kingdom he was trying to establish in Judea would be taken by the violent ones:

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." (Matthew 11-12).

But through his death and resurrection, Jesus planned the kingdom that would be built not only in Israel but also all over the earth in two thousand years through his disciples and Christians who believe in Him to be children of God.

In today's passage, we have hint when He will fulfill His kingdom. The Lord showed the visions of His kingdom to Peter, John, and James the three disciples through a vision:

'' And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

2And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

4Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

5While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

6And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

7And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

"(Matthew 17: 1-7).

At that time, the disciples had no idea what the vision was. It was also unknown why Jesus took them to the high mountain six days later to show them the great scene. Christians today read this scripture, but most Christians like the disciples of that time, do not even know why they were shown it six days later.

Why? Most Christians, like the Jews at that time are in darkness made by the devil in the world so that they could not see the glorious Christ. The Lord spent two days(two thousand years) after His death and resurrection to take away the sin of the world after he sent the Holy Spirit, and four thousand years before He appeared on the earth, that means six days later. In other word, he was talking about coming to the world after six days to judge the devil as well as the antichrist and false prophet that robbed his kingdom by violence; and to judge all men that had been deceived by the devil to establish his kingdom after six thousand years.

When Jesus came to be the king of the Jews two thousand years ago, no one knew Jesus was the king to establish the kingdom of heaven in the land of Judah only except the shepherds, the wise men from the east, and a few people like Simeon and Anna. Because they never tried to search the scriptures.

What about nowadays, two thousand years later? There are so many churches and the people confessing themselves as the servants of God all over the world, but most of them are blind leading the blind, wandering in darkness. They do not know Lord Jesus who is coming to the earth again to judge the world; they are rather deceived by the whore church that is Roman Catholic putting themselves into the pit. What a sad story it is!

Hearing that all religions are united by the pope, they don't know what it means. They don't know what is going on even hearing of the Middle East peace treaty either.

Today we must once again realize the meaning of the word that Jesus commanded his disciples before He ascended to heaven. The final Lord's command is that only Christians who believe and are looking for the Lord's kingdom shall understand what it means:

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1: 8).

At that time, the disciples were thinking only about the kingdom of Christ in the land of Israel, but the Lord spoke of the spiritual kingdom of God that shall come in them that believe in him upon hearing the gospel of Christ as well as the kingdom of Christ to be done when he come again after he judge the world. That's right! By preaching the gospel of Christ's grace until He comes, we should be prepared to be the pure bride, being his helper for the work of his kingdom in all the earth. Amen! Hallelujah!