

# PRiORiTiES




- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



*A Time for Spiritual Discipline/ Maturity!*

## Kingdomtide



The colour for this season of Kingdomtide is green, indicating a time of growth. We are reminded to plant our roots deep into the heart of God's sustaining Presence and Word, as we stretch out our arms in hospitality to the world.

# Seek Ye First

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Matthew 6:33

*“Top Priorities in My Life!”*

*At a Conversation with Rev. Pai  
Winter 1994*

## Kingdomtide

The colour for this season of Kingdomtide is green, indicating a time of growth. We are reminded to plant our roots deep into the heart of God’s sustaining Presence and Word, as we stretch out our arms in hospitality to the world.

- 
1. His Kingdom - July 7
  2. His Righteousness - July 14
  3. His Word - July 21
  4. His Way - July 28
  5. His Mission - August 4
  6. His Time - August 25
  7. His Church - September 1

SERMON SERIES - KINGDOMTIDE

**SEEK YE FIRST**



The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

ROMAINS 14.17 NASB



### Town houses

By the time of the later republic, most townspeople lived in apartment blocks known as *insulae*. Each apartment was known as a *cenaculum*.

Only the very rich could afford a private house, or *domus*. A survey of Rome in AD350 listed 1,790 *domus* and 46,602 *insulae*.

### A domus

Most town houses had the same basic plan. Some, like this one, had a second floor, but this wasn't very common.

Guests were received in the *atrium*. The word comes from the word *ater*, meaning black. In early times the *atrium* was the only room, and it was blackened by smoke from the fire.

The rooms at the front opened on to the street. They were often rented out to traders.

The roof sloped down to an opening called the *compluvium*. It could be covered in canvas in cold weather.

Rain collected in a shallow pool called the *impluvium*. When the water rose to a certain level, it was piped to a tank under the house.

The family lived in the rooms at the back of the house between the *atrium* and the garden.

Windows were left open, or covered with wooden shutters, animal skin or layers of semi-transparent stone. Glass windows were rare.

A walled garden like this was called a *peristylum*.

The *lararium*, a shrine to the household gods, was kept in the garden or in the *atrium*.

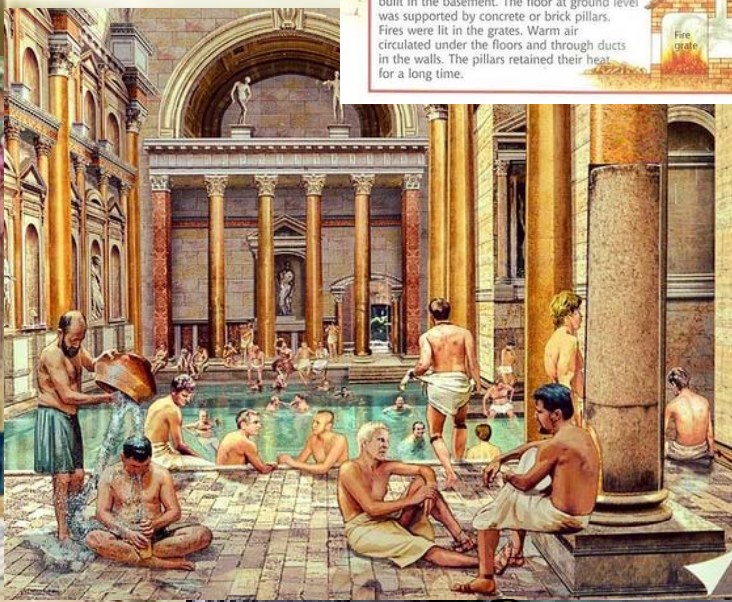
The dining room was called a *triclinium* (see pages 38-39).

Most houses had no bathrooms, because in every town there were many public bath-houses (see pages 60-61).

### Central heating

The Romans developed their heating system, known as the hypocaust, in the first century AD. When a house was being built, fire grates were built in the basement. The floor at ground level was supported by concrete or brick pillars. Fires were lit in the grates. Warm air circulated under the floors and through ducts in the walls. The pillars retained their heat for a long time.

We don't know how the Romans adjusted the heat, apart from building up the fire or damping it down.



Early Christian Disciplines in Roman Empire!

To be right, just, upright ( <i>qal</i> ) .....	צָדַק
Righteousness, uprightness ( <i>m.s.</i> ) .....	צֶדֶק
Act of righteousness, charity .....	צְדָקָה
Just, righteous [man] ( <i>m.s. adj</i> ) .....	צַדִּיק
Just, righteous [woman] ( <i>f.s. adj</i> ) .....	צַדִּיקָה
Thirty Six Secret Righteous ones.....	ל"ו צַדִּיקִים
Melchizedek (Gen. 14:8) .....	מֶלְכִי־צֶדֶק
Just, honest scales (Lev 19:36) .....	אֲבֵנֵי־צֶדֶק
Righteous judgment (Deut 16:8) .....	מִשְׁפַּט־צֶדֶק



# Righteousness

צֶדֶקָה

*Created in His Image,  
"Becoming Like God"*



*Be holy as God is holy. (1 Peter 1:15-16; Leviticus 11:44)*

*Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)*

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful. (Luke 6:36)*

The Lord is  
compassionate  
and gracious,  
slow to anger,  
abounding in  
love.

- PSALM 103:8 -

Righteousness

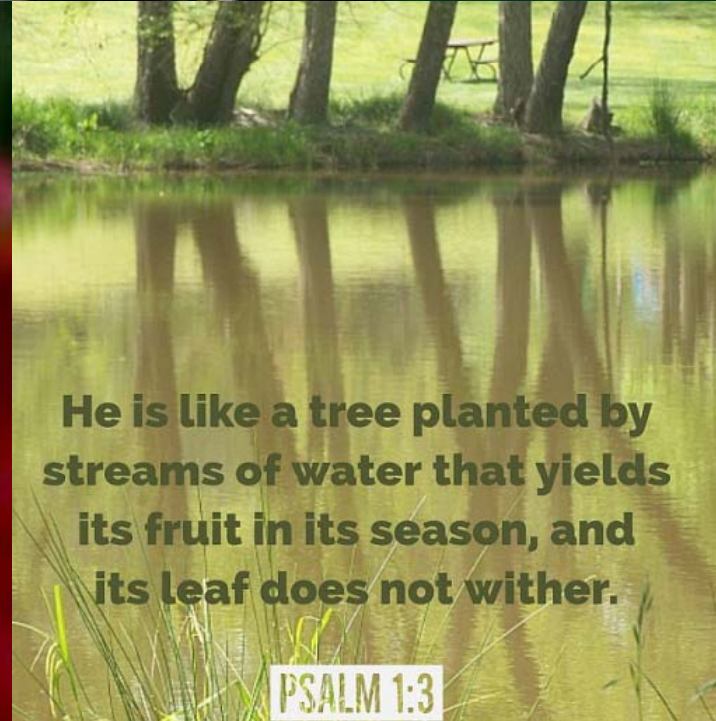
צדקה



Proverbs 21:21 NIV

Whoever  
pursues  
righteousness  
and love  
finds life,  
prosperity  
and honor.

@samurai4God



**He is like a tree planted by  
streams of water that yields  
its fruit in its season, and  
its leaf does not wither.**

PSALM 1:3

*True Success as "Being Righteous!"*





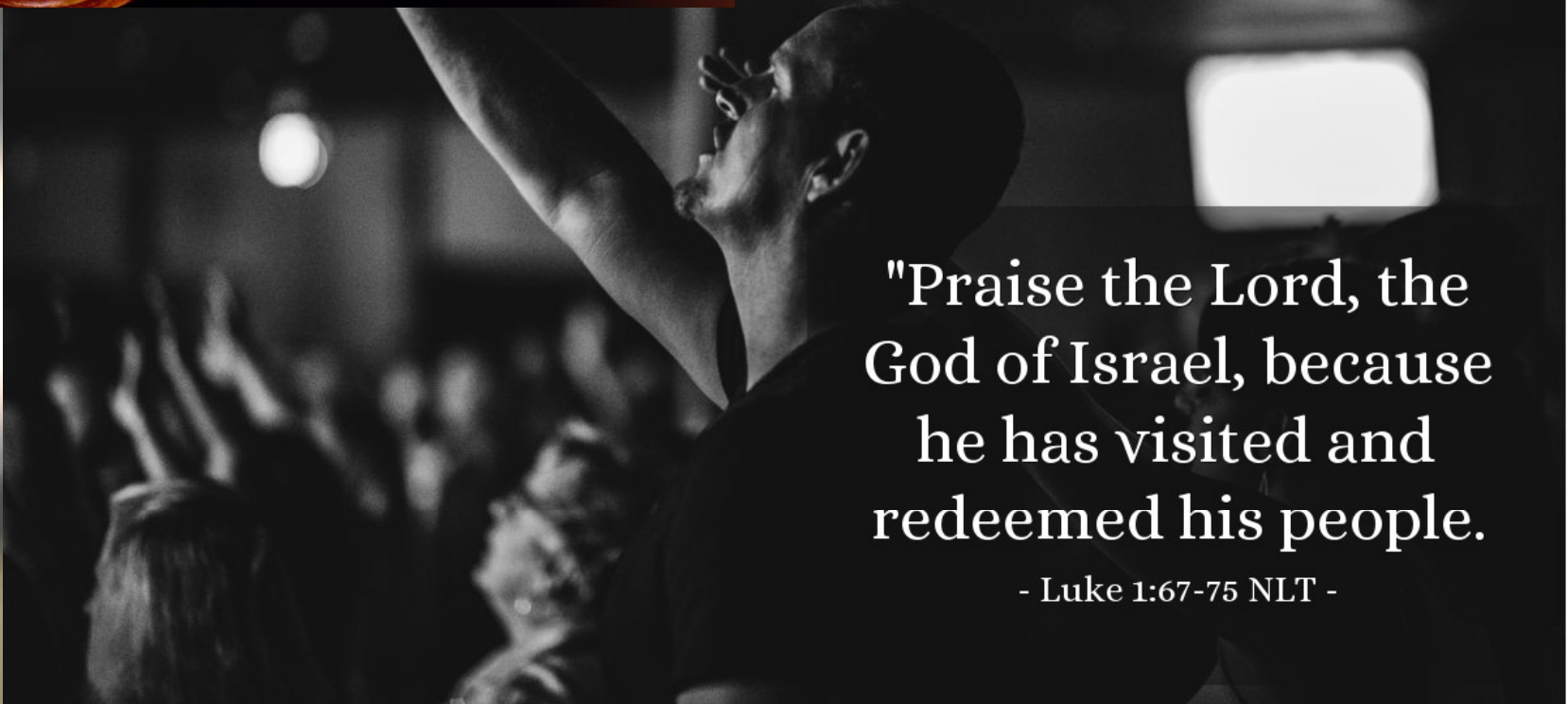
*Luke 1:67-79*

*Holiness and Righteousness*

## Zechariah's Prophecy

The Priority For Christmas  
Luke 1:67-79

heartlight.org



"Praise the Lord, the  
God of Israel, because  
he has visited and  
redeemed his people.

- Luke 1:67-75 NLT -



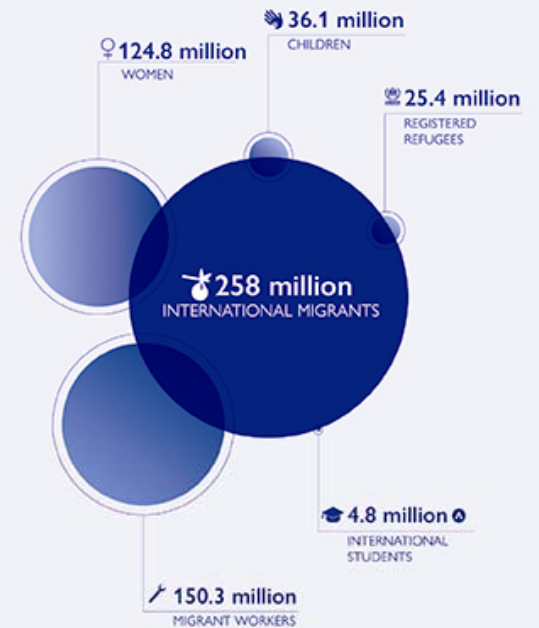
Luke 1:67-79

# God Rescues Us from the Evil Hands

to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and **to enable us to serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**  
**Luke 1:74-75**

## OVERVIEW:

INTERNATIONAL  
MIGRANT  
POPULATION



**Making Right Relationship with God!**

# Luke 1:67-79

## Christ Our Righteousness

*For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility ... His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, he put to death their hostility.*

*He Himself*  
IS OUR PEACE

Ephesians 2:14-18



# CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

· Hebrew Names of God ·

# יהוה צדקנו

YAHWEH TSIDKENU - THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS



*Luke 1:67-79*  
*Life with God*



AND THEY HEARD THE SOUND OF  
THE LORD GOD WALKING IN THE  
GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY,

**AND THE MAN  
AND HIS WIFE  
HID THEMSELVES**

FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD GOD  
AMONG THE TREES OF THE GARDEN.

GENESIS 3:8-9

**EMMANUEL**  
**GOD WITH US**

THE PRESENCE OF GOD



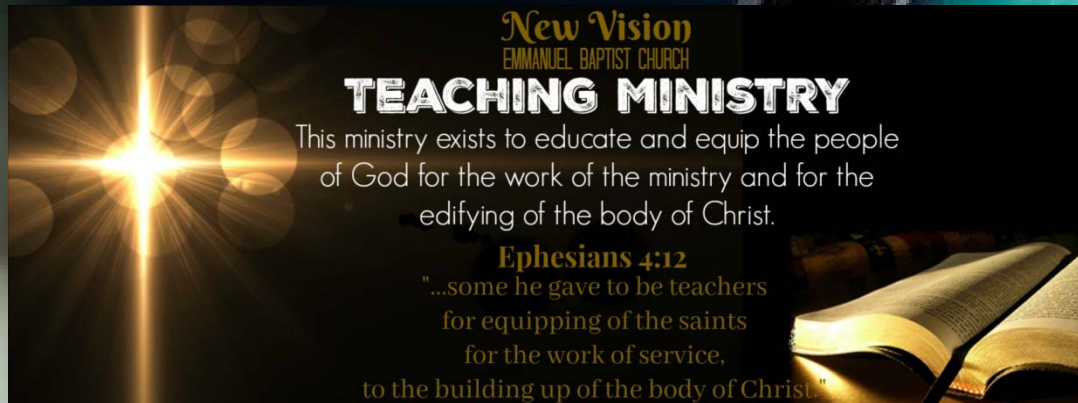


1. *The earthly mission of Jesus (and of the Church) heralds God's redemption.*

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

# 1. The earthly mission of Jesus (and of the Church) heralds God's redemption.



**New Vision**  
EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
**TEACHING MINISTRY**  
This ministry exists to educate and equip the people of God for the work of the ministry and for the edifying of the body of Christ.  
**Ephesians 4:12**  
"...some he gave to be teachers for equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ."



**SERVING OTHERS  
MATTERS TO GOD**  
- ROMANS 12:1, 2-9-13



**HEALING**

**Making Right Relationship with God...**

**Seek Ye First ...**

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

1. *The earthly mission of Jesus (and of the Church) heralds God's redemption.*

And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

—1 John 4:14

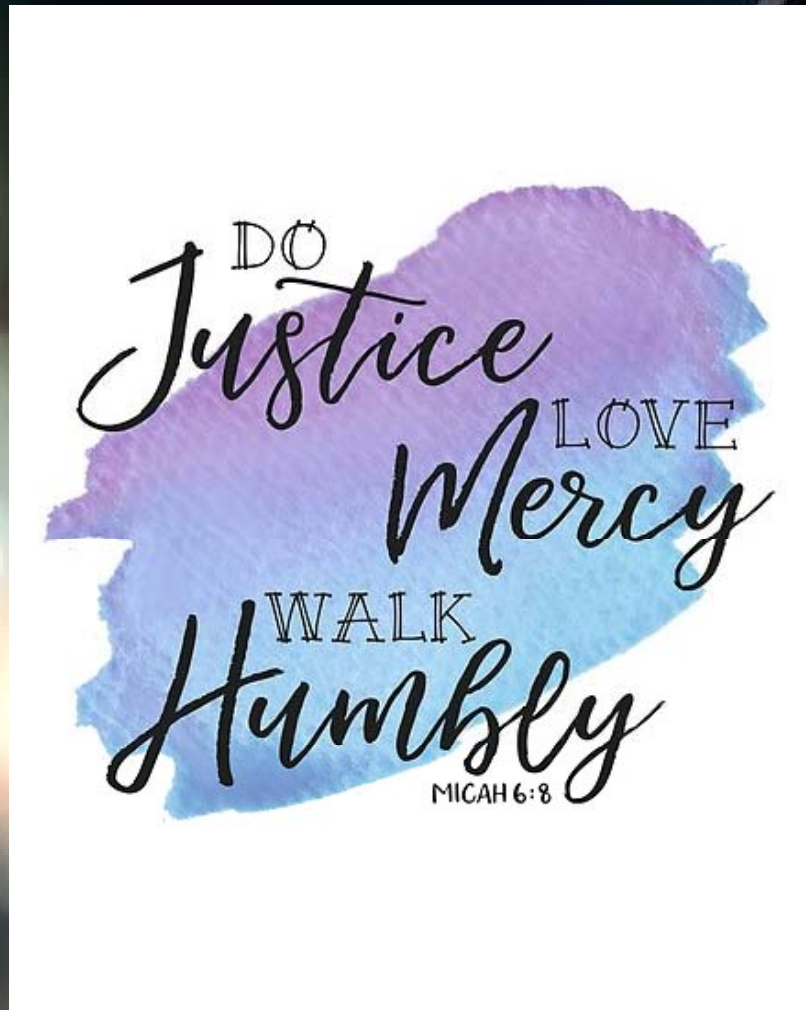
*Proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*



1. *The earthly mission of Jesus (and of the Church) heralds God's redemption.*



*Seek Ye First ...*

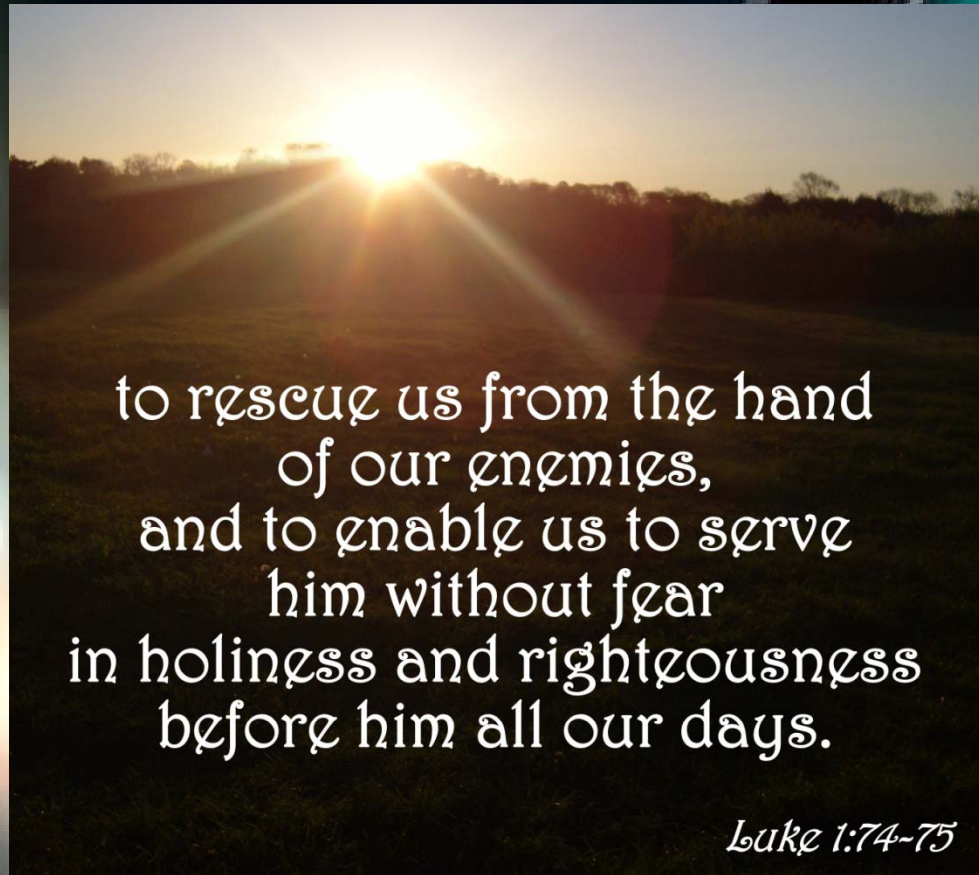
*Part 2. His Righteousness*

2. Being holy and righteous helps you serve God without fear.

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

2. Being holy and righteous helps you serve God without fear.



to rescue us from the hand  
of our enemies,  
and to enable us to serve  
him without fear  
in holiness and righteousness  
before him all our days.

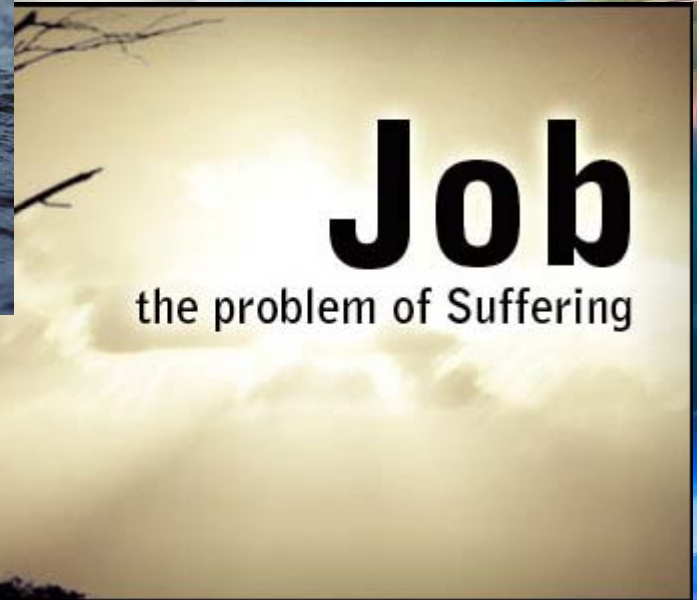
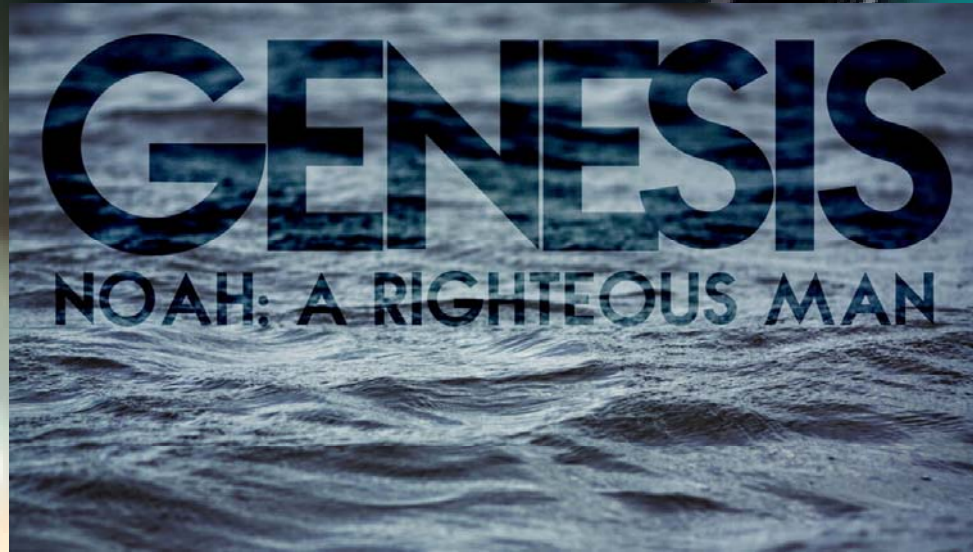
*Luke 1:74-75*

***Seek Ye First ...***

*Part 2. His Righteousness*



2. Being holy and righteous helps you serve God without fear.



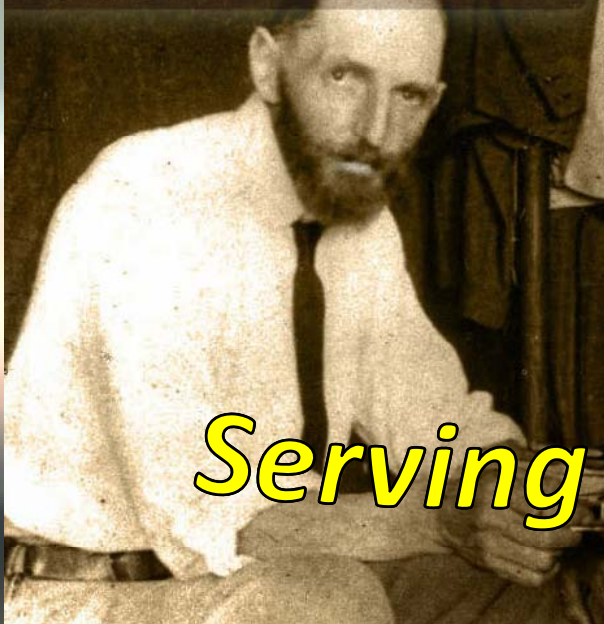
*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

## 2. Being holy and righteous helps you serve God without fear.

“If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him.”

- C.T. Studd (1860-1931)



Noah walked with God; he didn't only preach righteousness, he acted it. He went through water and didn't melt. He breasted the current of the popular opinion of his day, scorning alike the hatred and ridicule of the scoffers who mocked at the thought of there being but one way of salvation.

Charles Studd

***Serving God without fear!***

***Seek Ye First ...***

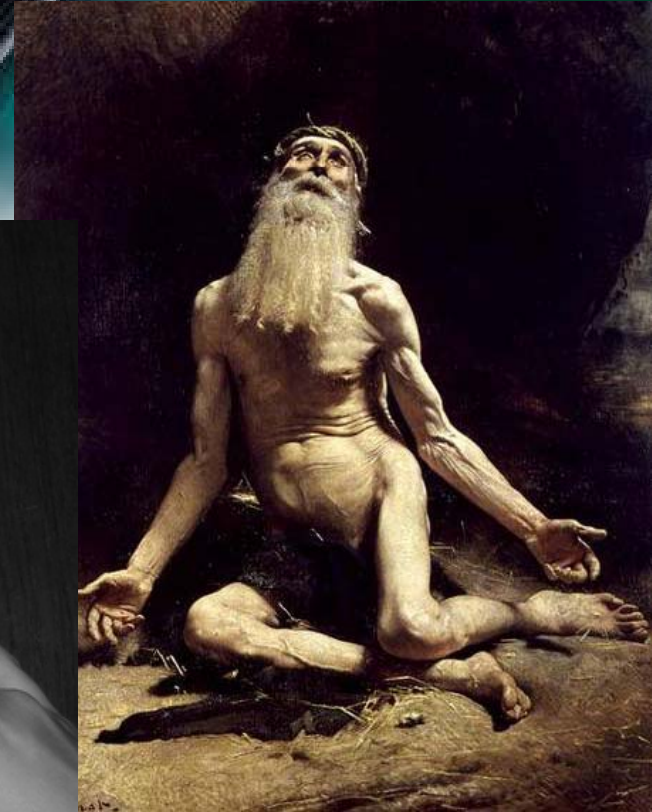
*Part 2. His Righteousness*



2. Being holy and righteous helps you serve God without fear.

"I Consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

Romans 8:18



Overcoming present sufferings ...

Seek Ye First ...

Part 2. His Righteousness



*3. The church is therefore invited to join Zechariah's vision to guide others into the path of peace.*

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

3. *The church is therefore invited to join Zechariah's vision to guide others into the path of peace.*

To give light to them  
that sit in darkness and  
in the shadow of death, and  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1:79

Knowing-Jesus.com

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

3. *The church is therefore invited to join Zechariah's vision to guide others into the path of peace.*

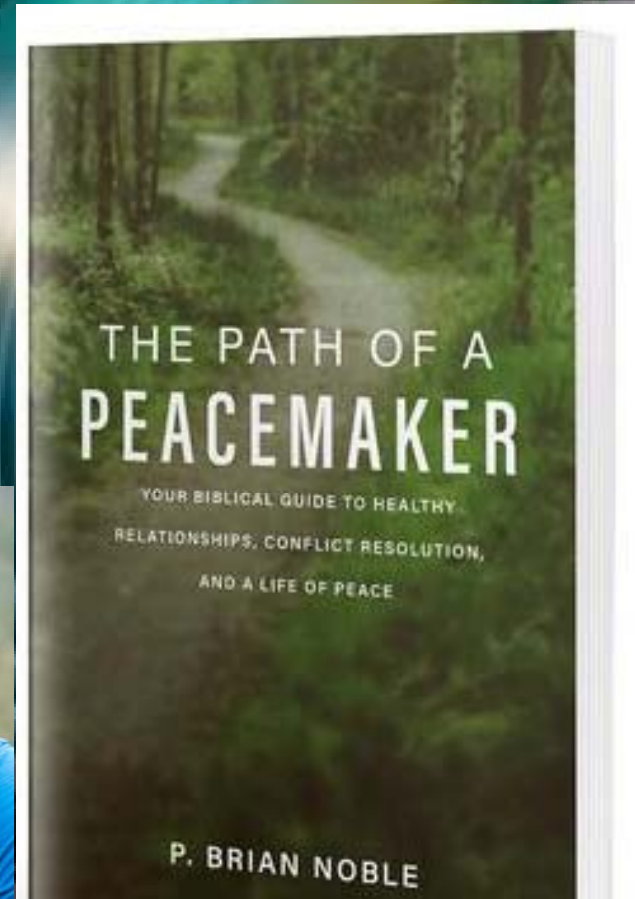
*Through an examination of your own story... invites you*

*1) to understand*

*God's approach to conflict*

*2) to take responsibility for your own part in conflict,*

*3) To connect with others in humility*



*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*



3. *The church is therefore invited to join Zechariah's vision to guide others into the path of peace.*

Let there be  
peace  
on  
earth  
& LET IT BEGIN  
with me

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

A close-up photograph of a camera lens, showing the intricate details of the lens elements and the surrounding barrel. A bright light source is positioned to the left, creating a prominent lens flare that radiates across the lens, with colors ranging from white to blue and green. The background is dark, making the lens and the light flare the central focus of the image.

*4. As the righteous disciples you shall shines on those living in darkness.*

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*

4. *As the righteous disciples you shall shines on those living in darkness.*

*“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

*Matthew 5:14-16.*

*Seek Ye First ...*

*Part 2. His Righteousness*