

The Only Requirement for Membership In the Original Jesus Movement.

In my previous email, [Introduction to the Kingdom of Heaven Movement of Jesus](#), I made two important points about Jesus:

1. Jesus preached: ‘Repent for the Kingdom of Elohim is at hand’” (“the Kingdom of Elohim is now here!”)
2. Jesus made students, not believers.

“Students,” in this culture, were not abstract thinkers like the Greeks. In the Jewish culture they learned how to do concrete acts. A more accurate understanding of what Jesus did is “Jesus trained skilled craftsmen.”

The only requirement for entering the *Kingdom of Elohim* is found in Matthew 5:20. Below is the BHC translation with the key word transliterated from Hebrew into English.

Unless your tzedaqah exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Elohim.

Jesus makes the point absolutely clear in the *Parable of the Great Day of Judgment*. Below is Matthew 25:37-40, 46:

<p>צדקה T T Transliteration TZEDAQAH tzey-doc-ah Translation righteousness</p>	<p><u>Ancient Meanings</u> 1. Acts that are TOV. 2. Acts that combine to create or restore SHALOM. 3. Acts of loyalty to God and the community. <i>Biblical Heritage Center, Inc.</i></p>
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“Then those who did acts of tzedaqah will answer the King, saying, ‘Master, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ . . . those who did acts of tzedaqah shall enter into eternal life.”

What were the acts of tzedaqah?

Beginner's Guide for Exploring the Teachings of Jesus

1. *Fed the hungry.*
2. *Gave drink to the thirsty.*
3. *Gave shelter to a stranger.*
4. *Gave clothes to the naked.*
5. *Visited the sick.*
6. *When to those in prison.*

The key to understand what Jesus taught his students is Isaiah 32:17:

*The work of **tzedaqah** will be **shalom**,
and the service of **tzedaqah** is quietness and trust forever.*

Acts of tzedaqah combine to create this:

“Complete, healthy, and wholesome lives; homes that are more safe, located in places that are more secure and restful; harmony between people by doing things that are mutually beneficial; and loyal and committed relationships.”

I will close by repeating two blessings Jesus taught his students. They leave no doubt as to the importance of **tzedaqah** and **shalom**. They are found in Matthew 5:9-10.

*Blessed are the **Shalom Makers**, for they shall be called “**Sons of Elohim**.”*

*Blessed are those who **pursue acts of tzedaqah**, for they are the “**Kingdom of Elohim**.”*

This is the only way to enter eternal life in the teachings of the original Jesus! Be sure to note that no beliefs are required!

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Shalom,
Jim Myers, President
Biblical Heritage Center, Inc.