# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND CHRISTIANITY

By: Fountain Hendricks

Many people believe that the Kingdom of God and Christianity are the same thing, when one has nothing to do with the other. The Kingdom of God is a **ROYAL COUNTRY**, governed by King Jesus.

Christianity is a **RELIGION** centered around the **SACRIFICE** of Jesus Christ. Christianity focuses on the traditions of God while the Kingdom of God is centered around His governmental system.

PEOPLE WHO ARE AFFILIATED WITH
CHRISTIANITY APPROACH JESUS DIFFERENTLY
THAN THE INDIVIDUALS WHO LIVE IN THE
KINGDOM OF GOD.

#### **DEFINING CHRISTIANITY**

In order to understand the above statement you must know what the term "Christian" mean. According to the Greek language the word "Christian" means to FOLLOW Christ. Following Christ does not mean you are a disciple of King Jesus. A follower and a disciple DO NOT have the same connotation.

According to the Greek language a disciple is defined as a **LEARNER**, not a follower of Christ. All throughout the four Gospels, Jesus **NEVER** called anyone a Christian. King Jesus wanted people to **LEARN** about His Kingdom so they can be partakers of His Kingdom.

The first time the word "Christian" is mentioned in the Bible is in the book of Acts 11:26. What I'm about to say is very important. God did not label His people Christians.

THE WORLD LABELED US AS CHRISTIANS.

Acts 11:26 says, "And when he found Saul, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year Saul and Barnabas met with the church and taught many people there. In Antioch the followers were called Christians for the first time." Reading this scripture will enlighten you to something very interesting.

Saul and Barnabas went to the church of Antioch to teach the message of Jesus Christ. Why would Saul and Barnabas go to the church to teach Jesus message, assuming that the "church" would already **KNOW** the message of Jesus?

According to the Greek language the word "church" in this scripture is defined as a **RELIGIOUS CONGREGATION**. The Antioch church did not preach the message of Jesus. They preached the **TRADITIONS** of God, which is different from the Kingdom of God.

PLEASE STUDY THESE IMPORTANT POINTS.

- It was RELIGIOUS people who labeled the believers of Jesus Christians.
- It was a group of people who DID NOT understand the Kingdom of God that stigmatized us as Christians.
- It was UNEDUCATED and MISINFORMED people who labeled us as Christians.

Jesus never wanted us to be Christians. He wanted us to be **DISCIPLES** (**LEARNERS**). The Antioch church called us Christians as a way of disrespecting the believers of Jesus. Once again, the word Christian means to follow Christ.

A follower can also be seen as an imitator. The Antioch church did not call us a Christian as a sign of honor.

They called us Christians to **MOCK** our belief in Christ.

If you want to know why Jesus **NEVER** referred to His people as Christians, it is because He never wanted us to watch and imitate Him. He wanted us to **LEARN** from

## Him. CHRISTIANITY IS A RELIGION BECAUSE THE NAME WAS GIVEN TO US BY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE.

### **DEFINING THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

Please read the entire books of the four Gospels very carefully. Jesus did not refer to His people as Christians. He referred to them as **DISCIPLES**. According to the Greek dialect the word disciple means to be a **LEARNER**.

Followers are not necessarily learners. A follower can imitate your moves, repeat your words and quote your phrases but it does not mean they have **STUDIED** who you are. King Jesus wanted His disciples to study His Kingdom so they could partake of His benefits.

## YOU CANNOT UNDERSTAND SOMETHING YOU HAVE NOT LEARNED ABOUT!

All throughout the four Gospels, Jesus was constantly teaching His disciples about the Kingdom of God. He

would teach in parables and demonstrate the power of the Kingdom consistently. Remember, the Kingdom of God is a **ROYAL COUNTRY**.

In order to benefit and partake of the pleasures of His Kingdom you must become **OBSESSED WITH LEARNING** about it. Since the Kingdom of God is a royal country it is imperative that you learn about its *laws*, *rights*, *culture*, *economy*, *constitution*, *government*, *army*, *values* and *morals*.

Jesus **DID NOT** call us to imitate Him. He called us to **LEARN** about His Kingdom. The religion of Christianity is ignorant of the Kingdom of God. This is why Jesus never called us Christians.

He did not want us to adopt an identity that was contrary to His teachings. When you familiarize yourself with Christianity you will deny yourself from learning about the Kingdom of God. You cannot connect with the culture of religion and be one with God's Kingdom!

FOR MORE WISDOM GO TO WWW.THEWISDOMSTORE.COM