

The Upside Down Kingdom of God ^{1,2}

The world says: “If you want to be great, you need to climb to the top of the ladder so others will serve you.”

God says: “The greatest among you will be your servant” [Matthew 23:11](#)

The world says: “Suffering is to be avoided at all costs”

God says: “Rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed” [1 Peter 4:13](#)

The world says: “Get as many toys as you can in life”

God says: “What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul” [Matthew 16:26](#)

The world says: “Look out for number one”

God says: “Carry each others burdens and thus fulfill the law of Christ” [Galatians 6:2](#)

The world says: “Never let anyone take advantage of you”

God says: “If someone wants to sue you to take your tunic, give him your coat as well” [Matthew 5:40](#)

The world says: “Never let anyone disrespect you”

God says: “If someone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also” [Matthew 5:39](#)

The world says: “Be the master of your own destiny”

God says: “Father if you are willing take this cup from me, yet not my will, but yours be done oh Lord” [Luke 22:42](#)

The world says: “Hold on to this life as long as you can”

God says: “Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and the Gospel will save it” [Mark 8:35](#)

The world says: “Don’t get mad, get even”

God says: “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, ‘I tell you not seven times, but seventy times seven’” [Matthew 18: 21-22](#)

The world says: “God helps those who help themselves”

God says: “For it is by grace that you have been saved – through faith, and this is not of yourselves. It is the gift of God so that no one can boast” [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

Most important of all, **the salvation of your soul** is personal between you and God and does not depend on rites, clerics, traditions, good works, or belonging to any church or religion: *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works...”* [Eph 2:8-9](#) No matter what kind of person you are or what you have done: *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”* [1 John 1:9](#) Pray today to put your faith in Jesus Christ alone: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* [John 3:16](#) Then study the Bible to live pleasing to God: *“...if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”* [2 Cor 5:17](#)

Please pray like this with all sincerity:

Dear Lord Jesus, I confess I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died to forgive my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Please guide my

life and help me to do your will. In the name of my Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

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tinyurl.com/yb4n3vvn

bammelse@yahoo.com

1 provocativechristian.wordpress.com/2010/01/12/the-upside-down-world-of-christianity

(Principal Reference)

2 newcreations.org/kingdom-of-god-upside-down/