

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom (Luke 12:32).

In what way was it the Father's good pleasure to 'give us' (Christians) the Kingdom of God?

1. Was it His good pleasure to 'show you' the Kingdom, allowing you the freedom of choice to accept or reject it?
2. Was it His good pleasure to 'tell you' about the Kingdom, allowing you the freedom of choice to accept or reject it?
3. Or was it His good pleasure to have mercy on us, sending His Spirit, sovereignly and efficaciously to birth Christ in us, thereby giving us eyes to 'see' the Kingdom of God, ears to 'hear' the Gospel of the Kingdom, and a new heart to 'believe' what we now can spiritually see and hear.

Sadly, many Christians reject # 3, preferring to place God's will in submission to their will.

Yet, Scripture is clear.

We turn to God because He turned us.

Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned (Lamentations 5:21).

God makes us willing.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power (Psalm 110:3).

It is God who freely exercises His omnipotent power to do for us that which we cannot do for ourselves.

Can a man physically blind, deaf or dead heal himself?

Jesus could graciously work such miraculous healings by the power of God.

Many approached Jesus for their healing.

They knew they were not in perfect health.

The dead, of course, made no such plea.

Yet He raised them from the dead without their request or permission.

Does the reader not understand it requires the same power of God to heal our spiritual blindness, deafness and deadness?

Yet many Christians refuse to discern the parallels.

They insist *they* first saw, heard and believed the Gospel of the Kingdom, *and then* God gifted them with the Holy Spirit.

Many Christians dislike the notion God's saving grace is bestowed upon whom He will have mercy.

NOT ALL RECOGNIZE THEIR DEADLY SPIRITUAL CONDITION

Do those who have no physical health issues seek a physician?

Of course not.

Do all those who are unregenerate, walking after the flesh, recognize their deadly spiritual condition?

Of course not.

And do those same unregenerate, unaware of their deadly condition, seek spiritual healing from Christ?

Of course not.

There is none that seeketh after God (Romans 3:11b).

Thus it is that God in His mercy illuminates our darkened minds, awakening us to the truth of our condition and its eternally damning consequences if left unchecked (John 16:8-10).

He heals our spiritual blindness so that we now can see the glorious light of Christ (John 3:3).

He heals our spiritual deadness so that we now can hear the Master's words of eternal life (Matthew 11:5).

He heals our deceitful stony hearts, giving us a heart to know Him, while causing us to obediently walk according to His will (Jeremiah 24:7; Ezek. 36:26-27; Hebrews 8:10).

To accomplish this, His good pleasure, He sends His Holy Spirit, the Comforter, who is the Spirit of His love.

God's infinite, eternal love for His chosen ones is what motivated Him to send His Son to acquire eternal life for us.

It is the same infinite, eternal love for His chosen that motivates Him to send His Spirit, worldwide and daily, to efficaciously apply that which Christ merited on our behalf.

Oh, the depth and the riches of God's great love wherewith He loved us!

