

Repent & Believe The Good News! The Kingdom of God is Near!

February 18, 2018 – Mark 1:14-15

“After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the Good News of God. The time has come, He said. The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the Good News!”

The World is filled with a lot of pain. Physical pain, Emotional pain. The families connected to the shootings at the school in Florida this past week are suffering. Some are suffering the loss of a loved one.

The school, the community, the nation grieves. One person broke the 5th commandment by actually killing others.

This being only one incident in our world, multiply that by all the other incidents throughout the world that we are not even aware of that have caused physical and emotional pain. To a world that is filled with violence and heart break, Jesus proclaims.

Vs. 15 – *The time has come, the Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the Good News!*

Now is the time, Do not delay! The Kingdom of God is near!

Jesus spoke these words nearly 2000 years ago and He says God’s Kingdom is NEAR?

Jesus Himself is the fulfillment of the coming of the Kingdom of God as prophesied by the prophets of the Old Testament. Jesus is the fulfillment of the One who would come and crush Satan’s head.

The Kingdom of God will be fully revealed when the Lord Jesus comes on the Last Day to Judge the living and the dead. Until that Last Day, it is important and crucial that we continue to proclaim the Word of our Lord, the Gospel message of Salvation in Christ Jesus, because the need is there. We have been reminded of the need by the violence that we see in the news.

The only way to change the person is to Change the heart. The Only way to change the heart is by the proclamation of the Good News of the forgiveness of sins in Christ Jesus and Life Eternal in heaven. As Jesus fulfills His office as Prophet, Jesus recognizes the human condition and the need for a Savior.

And so Jesus says in the same sentence, Repent!

Jesus tells us to turn away from that which is sinful and wrong in the eyes of God.

Both Repentance and Believing are of course only possible by the Holy Spirit who works and creates faith in our heart and leads us and enables us to Repent, to turn away from sinful actions, words and thoughts.

Romans 8:32 – He Who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also along with Him, Graciously give us all things? AMEN