

## APPOINTED TO A KINGDOM

(Synopsis of Discourse by Brother C. A. Ericson, Pertle Springs, Mo. Convention, 1912 Convention Report, page 121.)

Text—Luke 22:29, 30: *“And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me. That ye may eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom, and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”*

We notice that Christ did not claim equal power with God. He spoke of being appointed to a kingdom by the Father, and in a like manner He appointed us to be fellow heirs in this kingdom. The Position of Christ to God was one of perfect obedience. (Heb. 5:8, 9) And in this position He learned to know the Father’s will, that He might become the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him. Our position to God through Christ must first be one of obedience that we may learn. 1 Pet. 2:21-23.

To have the mind, or spirit of Christ, must always mean to us that we are seeking to know, and to do the Father’s will. (Rom. 8:16, 17) And in that way we know that we are children of God, and fellow heirs with Christ. (Gal. 3:29) Our education, then, as heirs of the kingdom must be in our daily life, watching every minute, every opportunity to be of service, to work out our own salvation. (1 Pet. 1:17)

The only right we have, as heirs to the kingdom, is through Christ, and the highest aim he had was to do the Father’s will. “For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.” (Mark 3:35) To love thy brethren, “to do good unto all men.” We do not learn this in one day, but it takes days and years of consecrated life, of careful study of the word of God, keeping a careful watch on every action. (2 Tim. 2:11, 12)

Our one and only great aim in life should be, then, to be rightly educated in the school of Christ, that we might be partakers with Him as heirs of the kingdom. To study the word of God and living our life in accord with it, we find, then, no better example than Christ and we are told to follow in his steps. Can we do it? Yes, if we have that love which overcometh all things. Christ has done his part; he has opened the way; he has walked ahead, if we watch we cannot miss the path, and the closer we follow the better we can see his very steps. (Rom. 2:21) And may we always remember the promises given by the Father through Christ, are exceeding great and precious. 1 Pet. 2:9; 2 Pet. 1:3, 4.

We will find that in this school of Christ are bound to come trials of different kinds, and maybe some of them hard to bear, yet may we also always remember that “in our weakness he is our strength,” and that “he will never leave us nor forsake us.” So with the dark hour as well as the sunshine we know that we are his, and that all things work

together for good for those that love the Lord. May we also remember, that if we are partakers of sufferings, we shall also be partakers of the consolation.

We are heirs to a perfect kingdom, where imperfection has no entrance. Sometimes the question comes up in our life—what is this kingdom like? and we often in our mind make pictures of this place of blessings, but it would be advisable to remember the words of the Apostle Paul, “Eye hath not seen, nor ears heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.” So we can very safely leave that part of it in the care of the Father, knowing that “He doeth all things well.”

But let us be rich in faith, and let our hope be steadfast, so that when our course is finished we shall hear the words of the Lord—“Well, done, thou good and faithful servant.”