

Illegal Immigration

Many people are entering the United States illegally in order to receive its benefits. They simply come across the borders and take up residence. Some Americans have suggested building a wall to keep them out.

In the kingdom of God, there is no illegal immigration. No one enters without the Lord's permission.

Even so, many people try to enter God's kingdom illegally. They want the blessings of the kingdom, but they don't want to abide by God's terms for entrance. None of them will be able to enter.

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:6). Those who try to come to God through Mohammed, Buddha, or any way other than Christ will fail.

Jesus also said, "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:20). Self-righteousness and manmade religious traditions are not the way to heaven, but rather it is the righteousness of God through the gospel plan of salvation (Romans 1:16-17).

Revelation 21:27 says that "nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." This book of life is an exclusive record kept by Jesus. It contains only the names of those who are faithful to the Lord, who have repented from their sins, and whose sins are forgiven.

It is a sad fact that only a few people will enter God's kingdom. Many will try to enter by various means, but only those who come to God on His terms will enter. In Luke 13:23-24, Jesus was asked, "Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?" He answered, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."

Likewise, Jesus said in Matthew 7:13-14,

¹³"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Indeed, no one will immigrate to the kingdom of God illegally. Only those who come to God through Jesus will enter.

Are you seeking that narrow gate that leads to eternal life in God's kingdom?

² Peter 1:10-11 – ¹⁰Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.