

Mar. 21 - Scripture: Luke 17: 20-37

Observation: Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you."

The Pharisees were sight impaired and suffering from a heart condition. They were looking for a king of flesh and bone to rule over their material world. Their human expectations clouded their vision to see the truth and the fulfillment of prophecy--the Messiah had come, but not to rule the material/creation, he already had that job covered. Jesus had come to be King in the hearts of men, women and children. Of course they could not see it with their eyes, because "the kingdom of God is within you."

Application: Sometimes, my wants, desires and/or expectations keep me from seeing anything else. If I remember that Christ lives in my heart, then He gives me "kingdom vision" to see what he wants to do in and through me. It also reminds to see others through God's eyes instead of my biased and presumptuous eyes. There's a big world out there that cannot see the truth. I am a Christian and commissioned by God to share his truth.

Prayer: Almighty God, it is reassuring that you are sovereign. I thank you for the salvation and new vision that you offer through the sacrifice of your son. Open my eyes to see your vision. Be the king of my heart and rule my life that it would follow you and bring you glory. In the precious name of Jesus, my savior, Amen.

Writer: My name is Pam Schillinger. My family and I have been members for about 14 years. The more I learn about God, the greater my faith grows, the more I can love others and the more I want to share his good news. Things that have helped me grow in my faith: Wed. morning ladies' Bible study, The Truth Project, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, and listening to my favorite Bible teachers at Oneplace.com.