## The concept of taking the kingdom of God by force

can we do this, is it even possible?

{Jesus said}, And from the days of John the Baptist <u>until now</u> the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force, <u>Matthew 11:12</u>.

This scripture is commonly taught that all of us should be taking the kingdom by force, or as some say. we all need to be violently pressing into it. However, lets take a closer look inside this passage of scriptures.

The phrase, "until now," in the scripture is a pivotal point and tells us of a coming change. Looking at the complete passage in Matthew 11:1-15, we see that Jesus speaks of three different time dispensations.

- 1. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John, verse 13,
- 2. And from the days of John the Baptist until now, verse 12,
- 3. and I believe the third dispensation is after Christ' Crucifixion, (the New and better Covenant).

During the time of John the Baptist (*before the Crucifixion*), when Jesus said this. Using some-kind of force was the only way people could attempt to take the kingdom. But now after Christ's Crucifixion, and that mankind is now forgiven and redeemed, all has now changed. God's kingdom is now within us.

Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you, Luke 17:21

Due to the spiritual oppression that we experience in this fallen world, for our enemy (the devil), wishes to steal from us what is rightfully ours, John 10:10. And he does this through deception, leading us to believe that we still need to press into God's kingdom. But this is not the case, for the kingdom of God is a gift to all mankind. Therefore know that God's kingdom is within us and is our rightful inheritance, and all we need to do is to realize this and accept God's gift of His kingdom,

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free, John 8:32.

## **Concussion:**

We cannot take the kingdom by force. Even having this mindset leads to a works philosophy, and becomes detrimental to ever achieving God's kingdom.

Abiding in the kingdom may seem to us somewhat as an abstract concept to us, but let me relate it to walking in the light, as He is in the light, having fellowship one with another, as the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:7.

To experience the kingdom of God we must access it by faith through God's Holy Spirit, there is no other option. We must be willing to walk in the spirit and to forsake the ways of the flesh, (the ways of this present world). Therefore we need to acquire the kingdom through determination and perseverance with a mindset that nothing will keep us from abiding in what we currently possess.

