

The Gospel of Matthew #73

Sermon on the Mount: chapter 7: Climax of instruction & warnings

Overview of Matthew 7:

7:1-12: 4 Feelings: the danger when you hear chapters 5 & 6 is to still try to establish your own righteousness. That will lead to 4 feelings:
7:1-5: feel superior by Law → judge everyone
7:6: feel superior by "Love" → judge no one
7:7-11: feel hopeless; need enlarge confidence in the Father
7:12: feel confused; simplified summary

7:13-27: 4 Warnings: final invitations and warnings by means of 4 contrasts:

7:13-4 2 gates & roads: wide & narrow: enter the narrow gate!

7:15-20 2 kinds of fruit: bad & good: beware false prophets!

7:21-23 2 displays of "faith": simple obedience & flashy miracles: only obedient faith is welcomed at the End

7:24-27 2 foundations: sand & rock

Be very careful to know where you are!

WHO WILL BE IN HEAVEN?

Matthew 7:21-23

I. The shock of many who will _____ be in Heaven

7 observations:

A. People who call Him Lord; think they are Christians! (v21)

B. People who proclaimed the gospel! (v22)

C. People who cast out demons! (v22)
Not liberals or nominally involved

D. People who did mighty works of power! (v22)
Supernatural works!
Cf. Matt 24:24; II Thess 2:9-10

E. People who did such things in Jesus' Name (3x)!
His Name had become a magical superstitious formula to them

F. People who were widely known as Christians!

G. _____ !!
There are members of CPC who will be in hell

II. What then is the mark of one going to Heaven?

7:21: the one who is _____ to the Father
Cf 6:10: Your will be done [in me]

Simple obedience, not flashy public ministry

III. Jesus is the Judge of who will be in Heaven

7:21: unique Son: "**My** Father"

7:23: "that Day...I never knew you...away from Me..."
He will decide where you will spend eternity as The Judge of the nations

Later reveal: the Son will take the Judgment from the Father: Depart from Me to cursing!

His acquittal changes your heart

IV. So **examine yourself!**

Has becoming a Christian made the Bible a precious Book to you, that you *want* to follow?

Is your life changing?
II Corinthians 13:5

Beware your amazing capacity for self-deception!

But do not despair: Jesus stands ready to save you—even now!