

Message From The Mount

Lesson 5

The Invitation To Heaven's Kingdom (7:13-27)

Introduction

The Lord basically concludes His preaching in 7:12. He has sufficiently outlined what is demanded by being a citizen in His kingdom. He also powerfully exposed the hypocrisy of the religious establishment, telling His hearers (*and us*) they are going to have to do much better than that to see heaven.

Any good sermon ends with an invitation. One can forcefully present truth, but all he really can do is invite people to comply...he cannot compel. Preaching is meant to move people from where they are to where they need to be. To conclude His sermon, Jesus contrasts the 2 options each man has re: eternity.

The 2 Roads (7:13-14)

- 1) Jesus' first words are an appeal. What does He say? (v. 13a) Define "narrow." (vv. 13a, 14)
- 2) How does He describe the road in v. 13b? *Thought question:* depending on how one looks at it, is there anything "appealing" about traveling this road?
- 3) What harsh reality awaits those who choose this path? (v. 13b) What, if any, kind of "joy" will be found on this road? (Heb. 11:24-26; 1 Pet. 2:11)
- 4) How does He describe the road in v. 14a? *Thought question:* depending on how one looks at it, is there anything "discouraging" about traveling this path?
- 5) What joy awaits those who choose this path? (v. 14b) What is required to travel under such restrictive conditions? (5:8; 6:19-24)

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The 2 Fruits (7:15-20)

- 6) Who does Jesus warn about in v. 15a? In trying to connect v. 14 with v. 15a, what would be so "tempting" to listen to these false teachers?

- 7) Is there danger? (v. 15b) How has this always plagued God's people? (Deut. 13:1-3; 18:20-22; Acts 20:28-30; 2 Pet. 2:1-2)

- 8) What is necessary to avoid this danger? (v. 16a) What logical or reasonable "test" should be employed? (vv. 16b-18, 20; cp. 1 Jn. 4:1-3)

- 9) What certainty awaits those who teach falsely? (v. 19)

The 2 Attitudes Toward Divine Authority (7:21-23)

- 10) What is the mindset of many re: entering the kingdom of heaven? (v. 21a) What is required instead? (v. 21b)

- 11) Is there anything wrong with "professing" Christ as Lord? (cp. Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10) What, then, is the problem? (Mt. 15:8; Lk. 6:46)

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- 12) How does Jesus illustrate the tragic reality that many have deceived themselves? (v. 22a) What will they think of their “religious activities?” (v. 22b) Use 2 Tim. 3:16-17 as a “proof text” in determining whether or not a “religious activity” is “good.”
- 13) What will be the Lord’s response? (v. 23a) In this section of the sermon (*the “Invitation”*), what “uninviting” word does He use in this verse? Define “lawlessness” or “iniquity.”

The 2 Foundations (7:24-27)

- 14) What comes with certainty? (vv. 25a, 27a) What do all men do? (vv. 24b, 26b)
- 15) Who is described first? (v. 24a) Why is he “wise?” (v. 24b) Before building, what is required? (Lk. 6:47-48) How will his efforts be proven and why? (v. 25b)
- 16) Who is described last? (v. 26a) Why is he “foolish?” (v. 26b) Using Lk. 6:47-48 again, what did he obviously think wasn’t needed? *Thought question*: how does “sand” describe our culture?
- 17) How is the tragedy of the foolish man emphasized? (vv. 27b; Lk. 6:49; 2 Pet. 3:9)