

LESSON 10: MATTHEW 7:13-29
JUNE 18, 2008

OVERVIEW

- . Counterfeits to be avoided – Matthew 7:13-29
 - . The wrong gate
 - . The wrong prophet
 - . The wrong emphasis
 - . The wrong foundation
- . Sermon on the Mount Summary – Matthew 5-7

COUNTERFEITS TO BE AVOIDED – MATTHEW 7:13-29

- . The wrong gate – Matthew 7:13-14
 - . “Majority must be right”
 - . God desires that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth
 - . “He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance” – 2 Peter 3:9
 - . There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ
 - . 1 Timothy 2:4-5
 - . Although God gave His only Son in order that all who believe in Him should not perish, the majority still chooses to reject God’s gift
 - . History reveals that throughout the ages only a few have chosen to trust God and to live for Him
 - . Jesus is the narrow gate – John 10:7-10
- . The wrong prophet – Matthew 7:15-20
 - . All Old Testament prophets warned of false prophets
 - . Jeremiah questions God on why He allows false prophets – Jeremiah 12
 - . God tells Jeremiah what will happen to these false prophets
Jeremiah 14:14-16
 - . Paul warns the Ephesians that such would enter into the Christian church
Acts 20:29
 - . Jesus tells us we will know true prophets by their fruit
 - . True prophets and pastors give out the Word of God, the gospel of Christ, as revealed in the Scriptures – 2 Timothy 3:13-4:2
 - . Real fruit comes from Christ himself, through the indwelling Holy Spirit
 - . John 15:4-5
- . The wrong emphasis – Matthew 7:21-23
 - . Mere words – Matthew 7:21
 - . We can’t equate knowledge of true doctrine, memorizing scripture and expressing orthodox theology with true faith

- . "Faith without deeds is dead" – James 2:20-26
- . To 'enter the kingdom of God' is an actual passing from death into life through true trust in Jesus Christ – John 5:24, Ephesians 2:1-8
- . True faith, requires a deliberate commitment to trust God's conditions of salvation as revealed in the New Testament
- . Mere good works – Matthew 7:22-23
 - . One can attend church on a regular basis, be active on church committees, involved in missions, yet still not be committed to obeying God's will as revealed in the Bible
 - . Jesus requires a relationship
 - . Jesus states that those who are truly His also know this because they know Him in a personal relationship of commitment to a living (though invisible) person – 2 Timothy 2:19
- . The wrong foundation – Matthew 7:24-27
 - . The point that Jesus is trying to make here is the importance of obedience
 - . The foolish builder knows the doctrine, but does nothing about it
 - . The foolish builder fails to heed the call of Jesus to repent of past indifference to God and of other sins – Matthew 4:17
 - . The wise builder hears the teachings of Christ and deliberately directs his life in obedience to all the teachings of the New Testament, making obedience to Christ the center and foundation of one's life
 - . Life built upon knowledge only, without personal commitment, is swept off its moorings
 - . True obedience means choosing to die to self and being born again in Christ, setting our hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God – Colossians 3:1-17

NEXT LESSON: WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2008 - MATTHEW 8