



5

THINGS THAT
WILL KEEP MANY
OUT OF HEAVEN

Matthew 7:21-23

5

THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

CONTEXT OF THE “SERMON ON THE MOUNT”



- ◆ The CHARACTER and BLESSEDNESS of the citizens of the kingdom - (Mt 5:3-16)
- ◆ The RIGHTEOUSNESS demanded of its citizens - (Mt 5:17-7:12)
- ◆ Our need to respond to the DEMANDS of the King in every respect - (Mt 7:13-27)

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FAVORITE VERSES OF THE “S. O. T. M.”



- ◆ The Beatitudes – 5:3-12
- ◆ “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law” – 5:17
- ◆ The “Model Prayer” – 6:9-15
- ◆ “Judge not” – 7:1
- ◆ “Ask it it will be given” – 7:7
- ◆ The golden rule – 7:12

MATTHEW 7:21-23 (NKJV)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

*It's Not What You Claim,
But What You Do!*

MATTHEW 7:21 (NKJV)

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

- * "Not everyone"
- * "Not everyone who says to Me"
- * "Not everyone who says to Me Lord, Lord" –

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

*It's Not What You Claim,
But What You Do!*

MATTHEW 7:21 (NKJV)

²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

✳ We **MUST** confess Christ -

- Mat 10:32,33 - if we confess before men ...
- Rom. 10:9,10 ... confession is made unto salvation ...

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP
MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

*It's Not What You Claim,
But What You Do!*

But we confess or Deny Christ
in both word & deed

Titus 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP
MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

*It's Not What You Claim,
But What You Do!*

To Claim Jesus As Your Lord, BUT
Not Submit To His Will – Is A
Glaring Contradiction . . . A Lie!

Luke 6:46 (NKJV)

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and
do not do the things which I say?

5

THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

2

False Faith

*It's Not How Much You
Believe, But What You Believe!*

MATTHEW 7:22
(NKJV)

²² Many will say to Me
in that day, 'Lord, Lord,
have we not
prophesied in Your
name, cast out demons
in Your name, and
done many wonders in
Your name?'

✳ The number is NOT a few
-but many! - Mat 7:13,14

✳ "In that day" refers to the
judgment - Mat 25:31ff

~ "That day" will come - John 5:28,29;
Ac 17:30,31; 2 Pet 3:10

~ "All will appear before the Lord" -
Mat 25:31; 2 Cor 5:10

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2

False Faith

*It's Not How Much You
Believe, But What You Believe!*

MATTHEW 7:22
(NKJV)

²² Many will say to Me
in that day, 'Lord, Lord,
have we not
prophesied in Your
name, cast out demons
in Your name, and
done many wonders in
Your name?'

* Many **WRONGLY** believe
they are saved ...

~ "Prophesied in Your name" -
(Taught others)

~ "Cast out demons in Your name," -
(Fought the devil - Acts 19:13)

~ "Many wonders in Your
name?" (miraculous works) -

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done many wonders in
Your name?'

* Many **WRONGLY** believe
they are saved ...

- ~ Diligently practice religious exercises -
Isa 1:11-17; Amos 5:21-24; Mat 15:7-9
- ~ Are faithful to observe select
commands - 1 Sam 15:13-24; Mat 23:23;
Mk 10:17-22; James 2:8-11
- ~ But have never truly obeyed the gospel
— Mk 16:16; Acts 2:38; Mat 16:24-26 ...

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in Your name, and
done many wonders in
Your name?'

* The principle of salvation by
grace through faith . . .

~ Noah - Genesis 6

~ Abraham - Genesis 22:1-18

~ Joshua & Israel - Joshua 6

~ Naaman - 2 Kings 5:10-14

~ Those saved on the day of
Pentecost - Acts 2:41; etc

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in that day, 'Lord, Lord,
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name, cast out demons
in Your name, and
done many wonders in
Your name?'

✱ The sad reality & danger
of self deception -

- ~ Many do not receive a love for the
truth - 2 Thes 2:10-12
- ~ The art of self deception often defends
itself by comparing our deeds to those
"more wicked" - 2 Cor 10:12
- ~ Glorifying in what "good" we do - Luke
18:9-14; Pro 14:12

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name, cast out demons
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done many wonders in
Your name?'

* How are we to escape this
human proclivity for self-
delusion?

- ~ Approach the Scripture with desire to
know, believe & obey the truth - (Jn
3:19-21; 7:17; Mat 7:7-11)
- ~ Do what we know - (Jn 8:31,32)
- ~ Constant honest examination of our
own hearts - (2 Cor 13:5).

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Your name?'

John 12:48 (NKJV)

He who rejects Me, and does
not receive My words, has
that which judges him--the
word that I have spoken will
judge him in the last day.

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

3

False Hope

*It is NOT what you THINK,
but what is REAL*

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

✳ Many will expect HEAVEN
but get HELL ...

- ~ God wants all to be saved - 1 Tim 2:4;
2 Peter 3:9
- ~ God has made provision so that
everyone could be saved - John 3:16;
Titus 2:11
- ~ But few will be saved - Mat 7:13,14; 1
John 5:19

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but what is REAL*

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'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

✳ Many will expect HEAVEN
but get HELL ...

- ~ MANY who professed Jesus as Lord - Mat 7:22,23; Luke 6:46
- ~ MANY who prophesied, cast out demons & did many works! - Mat 7:22,23; Col 3:17
- ~ MANY think they are on the narrow way to heaven but have never entered through the straight gate - 7:13,14; 16:24-26; 2 Thes 1:7-9

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

*It is NOT what you think,
but what is TRUE*

4

False Knowledge

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

* Many base their HOPE on a
false standard ...

- ~ "Good" people (by man's standards)? -
Ephe. 2:8,9; Acts 10:1,2,22; John 8:24
- ~ The doctrines & commandments of
men - Mat 15:7-9; Gal 1:6-9
- ~ Very religious, church going, praying,
giving people - Rom. 10:1-4

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

*It is NOT what you think,
but what is TRUE*

4

False Knowledge

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

ROMANS 10:1–3 (NKJV)

¹ Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

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but what is TRUE*

4

False Knowledge

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

PROVERBS 14:12 (NKJV)

¹² There is a way *that*
seems right to a man,
But its end *is* the way
of death.

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP
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*It is NOT what you think,
but what is TRUE*

4

False Knowledge

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

JEREMIAH 10:23 (NKJV)

²³ O Lord, I know the way
of man *is* not in himself; *It*
is not in man who walks
to direct his own steps.

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

*It is NOT what you think,
but what is TRUE*

4

False Knowledge

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

✳ Must hear, believe & obey
Jesus - Mat 17:5; 7:24-27;
John 14:6; James 1:22-25;
2:14-26; Heb 5:8,9;

✳ Must obey the gospel of
Christ - Mark 16:16; Acts
2:38; 2 Thes 1:7-9

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

*It is NOT what you know,
but what you DO*

5

False Practice

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

✳ MUST DO the Father's Will ...

- ~ The Father has spoken to us through His Son, Jesus - Deut. 18:15-19; Acts 3:22-23; 7:37 Mat 17:5; John 5:23; 14:23; Heb 1:1-3; John 14:21-23
- ~ Jesus has spoken by His disciples - Mt 28:18-20; Lk 10:16; Eph 3:3-5
- ~ We MUST be doers - James 1:21-24; 2:14-26; Heb 5:8,9; 2 Thes 1:7-9

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

*It is NOT what you know,
but what you DO*

5

False Practice

MATTHEW 7:23
(NKJV)

²³ And then I will
declare to them,
'I never knew
you; depart from
Me, you who
practice
lawlessness!'

✳ NO substitute for sincere,
humble, submissive
obedience to the Lord!!

- ~ Sincere obedience, (genuine, complete submission - Rom 6:16,17; 2 Cor 10:5)
- ~ Worship must be in "spirit & truth" - (John 4:24)
- ~ The need for authority for all we do - (Col. 3:17; Mat 21:25; 2 John 1:9)

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

MATTHEW 7:21 (NKJV)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

- ✳ Calling on the name of the Lord is MORE than saying the words “Lord, Lord” . . .
- ~ Not prayer – Jer 29:11,12
- ~ The result of hearing & believing the truth – synonymous with obedience – Rom 10:13-17
- ~ Includes repentance & baptism – Acts 2:21,38; 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

2

False Faith

3

False Hope

4

False Knowledge

5

False Practice

NO SUBSTITUTE
FOR SINCERE,
HUMBLE,
SUBMISSIVE
OBEDIENCE TO
THE LORD!!

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THINGS THAT WILL KEEP MANY OUT OF HEAVEN

1

False Words

THE SADDEST
WORDS! “DEPART
FROM ME” - MAT 25:41

2

False Faith

SIN’S ULTIMATE
HORROR IS
BANISHMENT

3

False Hope

WITHOUT RECOURSE
FROM THE VERY
PRESENCE OF GOD -
ROM 6:23; 2 THES 1:7-9

4

False Knowledge

5

False Practice

5

THINGS NEEDED FOR YOU TO ENTER HEAVEN

- * HEAR THE TRUTH -
ROM 10:17
- * BELIEVE IN CHRIST - JN
8:24; ROM 10:9,10
- * REPENT - ACTS 17:30
- * CONFESS - ROM 10:9,10
- * BE BAPTIZED IN THE
NAME OF JESUS CHRIST
- ACTS 2:38; 10:47,48
- * LIVE A LIFE OF
SUBMISSION TO THE
AUTHORITY OF CHRIST
- COL 3:17; 1 COR 15:58

1

True Words

2

True Faith

3

True Hope

4

True Knowledge

5

True Practice

5

WILL YOU ENTER GOD'S KINGDOM OR BE EXPELLED FROM HIS PRESENCE?

'Well done, . . .
Enter into the joy
of your Lord.'

'I never knew
you; depart from
Me,



What would you hear
the Lord say to you if
"THAT DAY"
was TODAY?



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Matthew 7:21-23

Charts by Don McClain

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West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219

Phone: 501-568-1062

Prepared using Keynote

Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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LUKE 13:23-30 (NKJV)

²³ Then one said to Him, “Lord, are there few who are saved?” And He said to them, ²⁴ “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door,

LUKE 13:23-30 (NKJV)

saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' ²⁶ then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' ²⁷ But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.'

LUKE 13:23-30 (NKJV)

²⁸ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. ²⁹ They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. ³⁰

And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last.”