



Jump To Page:

Sermon Notes

Slide Deck

Men

Living Deployment Ready

Men, don't miss out on our upcoming series on Living Deployment Ready! God has called us to advance His kingdom. This series will help us hone our skills, so we are always ready for deployment – ready to advance God's kingdom, ready to minister to others in God's power, on the front lines.

- When: Thursday, February 12 to March 26, 2026 (morning and evening options)
- Cost: \$25 until February 1st and \$35 after February 1st.
- Time: Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/511/responses>



Prayer

Freedom Prayer

We provide a prayer opportunity for anyone who feels the need for increased freedom and personal breakthrough in their lives. You will be walked through a process of Freedom Prayer by 2 or 3 of our trained Ministry Team Members.

Come with an expectant and receptive heart for the Lord to powerfully minister to you!

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.org/prayer>



Intercessory Prayer

Join us for Intercessory prayer, Tuesday nights at 6:30pm, or Thursday mornings at 6:30am.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.org/prayer>



Re-Gen

Regen, 2nd and 4th Sundays

Re-gen, for 18 to 30s, meets here at Harborview on the second and fourth Sunday's beginning at 5:30pm.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.org/re-gen-young-adults-ministry>



Small Groups

Small Groups

Small Groups exist to help each one of us grow up into the life of God within us.

They are a primary mechanism for shepherding through relationship + discipleship.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/368/responses>



Sycamore Commission

Hearing God's Voice - Weekly Class

Can't make it to the weekend intensive?

We will have a 6-week class of Hearing God's Voice on Monday nights beginning February 23rd. You will want to have taken Living Set Free before taking this class. Onsite childcare will be provided. The class is \$40 per person, tax included. If you need childcare, there will be a nominal additional fee.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/510/responses>



The Edge

Wednesday Night Youth Group

The Edge Youth Group for Middle School and High School meets at Harborview Fellowship at 6:15pm every Wednesday Night.



Whole Church

Giving

Thank you for being a part of Harborview Fellowship Church. Your donations are used to support, grow, and advance God's kingdom through a number of ministries at Harborview Fellowship including Children and Youth ministries, Outreach, Missions, Operations, and Jesus Ministry training both locally and globally.

You can mail a check, or give online to the link below.

Harborview Fellowship
4819 Hunt Street NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.org/give>



Women of Strength Study

Women, you are not an accessory. You are essential. YOU ARE CRITICAL TO GOD'S KINGDOM PURPOSES ON EARTH. The man and woman are to rule the earth together. Each has their role, but just as the triune God collaborates, relates, and rules creation, so the man and woman are to rule the earth. What does that look like?

According to the Bible, how does a woman of strength and courage look? How is she to live in God's design and embrace His call? Ladies, join us for the upcoming 7-session winter study on "Women of Strength and Courage."

- When: Thursday, February 12 to March 26, 2026 (morning and evening options)
- Cost: \$25 until February 1st and \$35 after February 1st.
- Time: Thursdays at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm.

Learn more, or register here:

<https://harborviewfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/509/responses>



MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS

Matt. 7:21-23

INTRO.

1. Many people today live under a far more dangerous assumption and/or false assurance.
2. No everyone who presents themselves with convincing words and sensational religious activities and works are necessarily of God's kingdom and belong to Him.
3. Not only can this person be deceived, but the Enemy can use such a person to deceive others and lead them astray from God, His truth, and His ways.

REVIEW:

1. vs. 7: 13 states that there is a road entered through the wide gate, which is broad and leads to destruction.
2. vs. 7: 14 states that there will be those who enter the narrow gate onto a difficult road. Of which Jesus says few will enter.
3. Jesus is primarily talking to the religious.
4. Last time, Tom spoke to discerning the righteous and the unrighteous, the right and almost right.
5. In today's text, we will see that the broad path can include the very religious, those who seek to be influencers, and people actively performing impressive works such as prophesying, casting out demons, and performing miracles.
6. Jesus says that many will be sentenced to eternal damnation, even though they fully expected to enter the kingdom of Heaven.

TEXT

Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV) “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!’

- In this text, Paul continues the theme of discernment, discernment regarding influencers, those who have the ability and desire to influence others from a spiritual platform.

FALSE ASSURANCE AND ETERNAL DAMNATION vs.21-23**False Criteria**Mere Association

Matthew 7:21 (NKJV) "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven,

- vs. 21 *Not everyone who says Lord, Lord will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.*
 - There is a myriad of people who say Lord, Lord. They profess to belong to Jesus; they profess that Jesus belongs to them.
 - *Not everyone who says they belong to the Lord and that the Lord belongs to them will enter the kingdom of Heaven.*
 - Entering the Kingdom of Heaven is more than mere profession or the power of positive thinking.
 - There is much wrong understanding about the assumption of belonging when in reality people merely associate themselves with God.

Personal Résumé

Matthew 7:22 (NKJV) 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?'

- vs. 22 Many will say to me on that day.
 - The word "many" is found **not only in vs. 22 but also in vs. 13.**
 - Jesus is referencing the "**company of the many**" who are on the broad and easy road.
 - There will be many who will believe they are doing great and wonderful works in the name and power of Jesus, yet who are not.
- There will be many who are zealous, active, and even diligent in religious work, maybe even influencers, maybe even do very impressive religious works.
- The works declared are impressive; prophecy, demonic exorcism, and miracles.
- However, Jesus will say, "Depart from me, for I never knew you."

False Credentials Summarized

- The first false credential is that of mere profession or association with Jesus.
 1. *Mere Association*: It takes more than simply professing in and of ourselves that we belong to Jesus, or that we associate ourselves with Jesus.
 2. *Religious Works*: The second credential presented by those with false assurance is that they have done great works for God in the name of Jesus.
 - Their words and works will seem impressive to them, but will not impress God in the least, even if they include preaching, casting out demons, and doing miracles.

- **Don't be deceived!!**

O.T. ILLUSTRATION – 10 Plagues Power Encounters

Exodus 7:11–12 (NKJV) But Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers; so the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. 12 For every man threw down his rod, and they became serpents. But Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

Exodus 7:20–22 (NKJV) And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the LORD commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. . . . 22 Then the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments; and Pharaoh's heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, as the LORD had said.

Exodus 8:6–7 (NKJV) So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt. 7 And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt.

N.T. ILLUSTRATION – Simon the Sorcerer

Acts 8:10 (NKJV) to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God."

- Simon in the account supposedly repents under the preaching of Philip and gets water baptized.
- Peter comes to present the reality and need of Holy Spirit baptism. Simon saw the benefit of the Holy Spirit filling and desired to make it a commercial enterprise. *Acts 8:19–20 (NKJV) saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!"*
- **Simon desired to impress so as to influence**, and to be selfishly benefitted.

PAUL'S EXHORTATION – Ephesian Elders

Acts 20:29–31 (NKJV) For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

True Criterion

Criterion Refined

Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV) “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ . . . but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. . . . 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

- NOTE: But he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven in contrast to those who practice lawlessness.
- All words and works, no matter how sensational and even sacrificial, are meaningless if they are not part of a life that lives in submission and obedience to God's will.
 - Living self-determined, self-deployed, in independence is not consistent with being part of God's kingdom.
 - God never commanded that the works in vs. 22 be performed.
 - **However, His teaching in the Sermon on the Mount was in imperatives.**
- You can perform and profess all you want, but if you do not do the will of God as set forth in His commands, you have no fruit of righteousness, which in turn means you have no life in God's righteousness.

O.T. REINFORCEMENT

1 Samuel 15:22 (NKJV) So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

Malachi 1:10 (NKJV) “Who is there even among you who would shut the doors, so that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you,” Says the LORD of hosts, “Nor will I accept an offering from your hands.

SOME REALITIES

- The issue is a life of submission, obedience, and genuine pursuit after God.
- It is possible to proclaim Bible words and perform religious works yet never know Him.
- It is possible to perform the services of Christianity and not evidence divine righteousness or the fruit of God's righteousness as laid out in the Sermon on the Mount.
- A bad tree can't bear good fruit; a good tree will bear good fruit.
- A person can stand before God at the judgment, presenting myriads of works done in the name of Jesus, but they will be worthless, if done out of independence and self-will, not under the direction of God.
 - **The credential required is the righteousness of God, evidenced in the fruits of righteousness, living in submission and obedience to God.**

- The people in our text live with false assurances and their works, but they didn't offer poverty of spirit, mourning over sin, meekness, hungering and thirsting after righteousness or purity of heart, or making peace with others.
 - They hungered and thirsted for powerful religious works to impress others for personal recognition.
- This person professes to be Christian but in no way reflects the righteousness and character of Christ and has no part in Him.

The Eternal Consequence

Matthew 7:23 (NKJV) And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

The Declaration

I never knew you.

- The word “knew” refers to an intimacy of personal knowledge, an intimate relationship.
 - Adam *knew* his wife, in reference to sexual relations.

The Sentence

Depart from me,

- The sentence was directed to those who have no sense of responsibility or obedience to the will and commands of God.
 - To depart from God means to leave His presence. His presence is with the Father in heaven. The lawless ones are sentenced to eternal punishment.

Matthew 25:41 (NKJV) "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

APPLICATION

1. Self-Examine Your Basis of Eternal Life

a. More than Mere Association

- Do I truly belong to Him, or am I just claiming association?
- Test this by your daily submission to His commands, not positive thinking or verbal claims.

b. Reject Reliance on Religious Résumé

- Don't build assurance on impressive religious works and services.
- Are these from self-will or God's direction?
- If they're for personal recognition or influence, they're worthless—pivot to obedience over performance.

2. Discern Deception of False Influences & Influencers

- Watch for savage wolves or perverse teachers (like Simon the Sorcerer) who prioritize power, influence, or personal gain.
- Vet spiritual leaders. Do they draw people to self or to Christ?
- Don't be impressed with large numbers of followers, impressive web pages, published materials, without discerning are they operating out of authentic spiritual life in God, glorify God, are humble, and serve for the benefit of others versus themselves.
- Be alert to deception due to impressive works and words.



1

HARBORVIEW FELLOWSHIP

Equipping people to passionately
Live like Jesus lived,
Do what Jesus did, and
Advance His kingdom together.

2

MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS



Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV) “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!’”

3

MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS

False Criteria

Mere Association



Matthew 7:21 (NKJV) “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven,

4

MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS

False Criteria

- Mere Association
- Personal Résumé



Matthew 7:22 (NKJV) 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?'

5

MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS

False Criteria

- Mere Association
- Personal Résumé
- False Credentials Summarized
 1. *Mere Association*



6

MORE THAN PROFESSION & WORKS

False Criteria

Mere Association

Personal Résumé

False Credentials Summarized

1. *Mere Association*
2. *Religious Works*



7

O.T. ILLUSTR. – 10 Plagues Power Encounters

Exodus 7:11–12 (NKJV) But Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers; so the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. 12 For every man threw down his rod, and they became serpents. But Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.



8

O.T. ILLUSTR. – 10 Plagues Power Encounters



Exodus 7:20–22 (NKJV) And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the LORD commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. . . . 22 Then the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments; and Pharaoh's heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, as the LORD had said.

9

O.T. ILLUSTR. – 10 Plagues Power Encounters



Exodus 8:6–7 (NKJV) So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt. 7 And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt.

10

N.T. ILLUSTRATION – Simon the Sorcerer



Acts 8:10 (NKJV) to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the great power of God.”

11

N.T. ILLUSTRATION – Simon the Sorcerer



Acts 8:10 (NKJV) to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the great power of God.”

Acts 8:19–20 (NKJV) saying, “Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” 20 But Peter said to him, “Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!”

12

PAUL'S EXHORTATION – Ephesian Elders

Acts 20:29–31 (NKJV) For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.



13

FALSE ASSURANCE ETERNAL DAMNATION

False Criteria

True Criterion

Criterion Revealed



Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV) “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ . . . but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. . . . 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

14

O.T. REINFORCEMENT



1 Samuel 15:22 (NKJV) So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

15

O.T. REINFORCEMENT



Malachi 1:10 (NKJV) “Who is there even among you who would shut the doors, So that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you,” Says the LORD of hosts, “Nor will I accept an offering from your hands.

16

FALSE ASSURANCE ETERNAL DAMNATION

False Criteria

True Criterion

Eternal Consequence



Matthew 7:23 (NKJV) And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

17

FALSE ASSURANCE ETERNAL DAMNATION

False Criteria

True Criterion

Eternal Consequence



The Declaration – “. . . *I never knew you. . .*”

Matthew 7:23 (NKJV) And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

18

FALSE ASSURANCE ETERNAL DAMNATION

False Criteria

True Criterion

Eternal Consequence

The Declaration – “. . . *I never knew you. . .*”

The Sentence – “. . . *Depart from me, . . .*”

Matthew 7:23 (NKJV) And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’



19

Matthew 25:41 (NKJV) “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:



20

APPLICATION

1. Self-Examine Your Basis of Eternal Life
 - a. More than Mere Association
 - b. Reject Reliance on Religious Résumé



21

APPLICATION

1. Self-Examine Your Basis of Eternal Life
2. Discern Deception of False Influences & Influencers



22