

Just A Few

Matthew 7:13-23 KJV

13 “Enter ye in at the **strait gate**: for **wide is the gate**, and **broad is the way**, that leadeth to destruction, and **many there be which go in thereat**:

14 because **strait is the gate**, and **narrow is the way**, which leadeth unto life, and **few there be that find it**.

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so **every good tree bringeth forth good fruit**; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is **hewn down, and cast into the fire**.

20 Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them**.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

Introduction: This morning I want to have a common yet complex conversation with you, centered around truths spoken by Jesus the Christ. This conversation is designed to help you to avoid tricks being disguised as treats and traps disguised as trusted inclusions, and illusions, that do not have your best interest at heart. I am on a journey to bring warning to an adulterous generation who has chosen idol God's over the God of all creation. Manipulation and satanic masking is the masterful maneuvering of the devil, to get you to disavow your loyalty to the God who created you and the Christ who redeemed you from your messy way of life. Messy not because of mistakes and fleshly entanglements, but because many in our world have concluded that they can make it through life, without a need for God and His way of life. So allow me to begin this conversation with a line of questioning, centered around your ideological views, values and vision.

The Power of Focus = The GLAD Principle

- **Goals - What are your plans?**
- **Lifestyle - How will you govern your life's choices and settled decisions?**
- **Ambitions - How will you balance between what you desire and what God has designed?**
- **Destiny - What is your end game?**

Well I want you to know today, that the Lord has a lot to say, that will impact conclusively all of the above. God is not just laying around while the world is playing around as though when He said on the seventh day he rested, that he became arrested by some form of eternal sleeping. Let me give you a preview of coming instructions. We will focus on 4 points of view, **The Few, The Fake, The Fruit and The Foolish.**

The Biblical Exposition of Matthew 7:13-23

1. The Few: Faithful to the Call, Commission, and a Christ-like Character.

13 “Enter ye in at the **strait gate**: for **wide is the gate**, and **broad is the way**, that leadeth to destruction, and **many there be which go in thereat**:

Jesus gives directions, directives and distinction, for the purpose of crowd clarity.

14 because **strait is the gate**, and **narrow is the way**, which leadeth unto life, and **few there be that find it**.

2 The Fake - Following their own agendas, appetites and ascensions, and never aligning themselves to God's purpose.

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Ravening Wolves: harpax/grk. To be swindlers and extortionist.

- **“Human Elevation without Divine Revelation and Release, will lead to Condemnation.”**

If God didn't send you, who did?

You raise yourself up, but in time God will pull you down, or just watch you fall.

John 10:1-10 The Mystery in The Message

1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

6 This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.

9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

10 The thief cometh not, but for to **steal**, and to **kill**, and to **destroy**: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

3 The Fruit - What godly results are you producing?

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

- **Every word spoken, every witness shared and every walk intended, requires one thing, proof by fruit.**

The public religious fight, debate and opinionated differences surrounding Spiritual Gifts are compounding confusion in the public square. But what's never debated in the public square, are Spiritual Fruit. Your Fruit must be able to withstand the boot. Your meat must be able to handle the heat. In other words, everything in your productive life must be able to handle being tested. Spiritual Fruit has to be tested in order to be trusted. **LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LONGSUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE.**

- **“We don't get to brag about being christians and our fruit don't get tested.”**

The Yam experience at Mr. Jack's.....

“We go through hell on earth, so we don't have to go to hell when we die.”

4 The Foolish - 21-23 - Deceived by ones own personal perspectives and conclusion.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.**

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”**

Lack of True purpose, perspective and preparation.

5 Foolish Virgins: Matthew 25: 1- 13

1“Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

3 The five who were **foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps,**

4 but the other five were **wise enough to take along extra oil.**

5 When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

6 "At midnight they were roused by the shout, 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!'

7 "All the bridesmaids got up and **prepared their lamps.**

8 Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil **because our lamps are going out.'**

9 "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.'

10 "But **while they were gone to buy oil,** the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked.

11 Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!'

12 "But he called back, '**Believe me, I don't know you!**'

13 "**So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.**

The oil in the parable points to an authentic spiritual life sustained by the Holy Spirit—not merely outward religion. The foolish virgins had lamps (appearance, profession, association with the wedding party), but lacked oil (inner spiritual reality and preparedness).

Closing Points To Ponder:

- **Spiritual readiness cannot be transferred**
- **Relationship with God cannot be borrowed from others**
- **Last-minute spirituality is dangerous**

Each believer must cultivate their own:

- **prayer life**
- **obedience**
- **intimacy with God**
- **faithfulness**
- **spiritual endurance**

Poor preparation will get you left behind not for lack of opportunity, but compromised obligations.