

# FULL BREAKDOWN MATTHEW 7:21-23

Refuting OSAS, Free grace,  
Eternal Security &  
Perseverance of the Saints

By Michael Ray Garvin



## Matthew 7:21-23

21 “**Not everyone** who says to me, ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **only** the one **who does the will** of my Father in heaven. 22 On that day **many** will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not **prophecy** in **your name**, and **cast out demons** in **your name**, and do **many mighty works** in **your name**?’ 23 Then I will declare to them, ‘***I never knew you;*** go away from me, you **who behave lawlessly.**’

# Matthew 7:21

“**Not everyone who says Lord, Lord**”  
“but **only** the one **who does** the **will of my**  
**Father in heaven.**”

## Will of the Father is to listen & obey His Son

7 And a cloud threw a shadow upon them, and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, **This is My Son**, the [most dearworthy] Beloved One. **Be constantly listening to and obeying Him!**

**Mark 9:7 AMPC**

35 Then there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, **This is My Son, My Chosen One** or My Beloved; **listen to and yield to and obey Him!**

**Luke 9:35 AMPC**

# Listen & Obey The Son

7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; **listen to him!**”

**Mark 9:7 NRSV**

35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “**This is my Son**, my Chosen; **listen to him!**”

**Luke 9:35 NRSV**



Thayer's Greek Lexicon

 **γ. to yield to, hear and obey, hear to one, (German *auf einen hören*):**

Matthew 17:5 (Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35); John 3:29; John 10:8; Acts 3:22; Acts 4:19; Acts 7:37 [R G]; 1 John 4:5f. Hence,

## Matthew 7:22



# Judgement Day

22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not **prophecy** in **your name**, and **cast out demons** in **your name**, and do **many mighty works** in **your name**?’

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17 And these signs will accompany those **who believe**: **by using my name** they will **cast out demons**; they will **speak in new tongues**; 18 they will pick up snakes, and if they drink any deadly thing, **it will not hurt them**; they will **lay their hands on the sick**, and they will recover.”

Mark 16:17-18 NRSV

## Matthew 7:23

23 Then I will declare to them, ‘**I never knew you**; go away from me, you **who behave lawlessly.**’

### “I never knew you”

This was a recognized formula of repudiation and excommunication in the Jewish community. A rabbi would say these words to a disobedient disciple.

**resources:** Erub. 53a; Mo’ed. Qat. 16a; Mo’ed Qat. 3:8; Carson 1984b: 193; Lachs 1987: 150

well aware that some prophets were false; indeed, on multiple occasions, in the decades following Jesus’ ministry, alleged prophets led followers to destruction at the hands of Rome’s armies.

**7:16** See note on Jas 3:12.

**7:21 – 22** Although Greek and Jewish accounts sometimes delegated judgment to an exalted human, the ultimate judge in Jewish belief was God. Some Jewish exorcists invoked Solomon’s name to try to expel demons (Josephus, *Antiquities* 8.47), but the sense here may exalt Jesus more: Jewish people more often could speak of acting (e.g., 1Sa 17:45; Ps 118:11 – 12) or prophesying (e.g., Dt 18:22; 1 Esdras 6:1) in the name of God.

**7:23** *I never knew you.* This was a recognized formula of repudiation and rejection.



**Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible**  
**Craig S Keener New Testament Editor**

Eruvin 53a:10

The Gemara asks: And according to the one who said that his decrees were new, isn't it written: "**Who knew not Joseph**"? If it were the same king, *how could he not know Joseph*? The Gemara explains: What is the meaning of the phrase: "Who knew not Joseph"? It means that he **conducted himself like one who did not know Joseph at all**.

Moed Katan 16a:22

Rabbi Shimon went and told his father, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi, what bar Kappara had said, and Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi became angry with him. When bar Kappara came at some later point to visit, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi said to him: Bar Kappara, **I do not know you at all**. Bar Kappara understood that Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi had taken his statement to heart, i.e., was insulted. He subsequently **behaved** as if he had been admonished, as a self-imposed punishment, for thirty days.

# Jesus' Command on Sin & Excommunication

15 “If **your brother** or **sister** sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and **if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.**

[Matthew 18:15-17 NRSV](#)

**Treat them as if “you never knew them.”**





# THAYER'S GREEK LEXICON

WE SEE THAT INIQUITY MEANS VIOLATING LAW OR TO DO WICKEDNESS. THESE DISCIPLES DISREGARDED THEIR RABBI'S COMMANDS.

JESUS OUR MASTER, WILL SAY "DEPART FROM ME," TO THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIM BUT DID NOT OBEY OR DISREGARDED HIS COMMANDS.

ἀνομία, -ας, ἡ, (ἄνομος);

1. properly, the condition of one without law — either because ignorant of it, or because violating it.

2. contempt and violation of law, iniquity, wickedness: Matthew 23:28; Matthew 24:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:8 (T Tr text WH text; cf. ἁμαρτία, 1, p. 30f), 2 Thessalonians 2:7; Titus 2:14; 1 John 3:4. opposed to ἡ δικαιοσύνη, 2 Corinthians 6:14; Hebrews 1:9 [not Tdf.] (Xenophon, mem. 1, 2, 24 ἀνομία μᾶλλον ἢ δικαιοσύνη χρώμενοι); and to ἡ δικαιοσύνη and ὁ ἁγιασμός, Romans 6:19 (τῇ ἀνομία εἰς τὴν ἀνομίαν to iniquity — personified — in order to work iniquity); ποιεῖν τὴν ἀνομίαν to do iniquity, act wickedly, Matthew 13:41; 1 John 3:4; in the same sense, ἐργάζεσθαι τὴν ἀν., Matthew 7:23; plural αἱ ἀνομίαι manifestations of disregard for law, iniquities, evil deeds: Romans 4:7 (Psalm 31:1 (Ps. 32:1)); Hebrews 8:12 [R G L]; Hebrews 10:17. (In Greek writings from [Herodotus 1, 96] Thucydides down; often in the Sept.)

[Synonym: cf. Trench, § lxvi.; Tittmann 1:48; Ellicott on Titus 2:14.]

LORD, LORD

## Hear & Obey

24 “Everyone, then, **who hears these words of mine** and **acts on them** will be like **a wise man** who built his house on rock. 25 The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on rock. 26 And **everyone who hears these words of mine** and **does not act on them** will be like a **foolish man** who built his house on sand. 27 The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!”

**Matthew 7:24-27 NRSV**



< **Lord, Lord**



Done

46 “Why do you call me ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ and **do not do what I tell you?**”

Luke 6:46 NRSV

Do you obey All of the commands of Jesus?

# Some Commands of Jesus

**Murder and Hatred**: Matthew 5:21-22

**Reconcile**: Matthew 5:23-26

**Adultery**: Matthew 5:27-28

**Divorce & Remarriage**: Mark 10:11-12, Luke 16:18 Matthew 5:30-32

**Cut off what causes you to sin**: Matthew 5:29-30

**Oaths**: Matthew 5:33-37

**Retaliation**: Matthew 5:38-39

**Love For Enemies**: Matthew 5:43-48

**Give to the Needy in secret**: Matthew 6:1-4

**Pray in secret not just in public**: Matthew 6:5-7

**This is how you pray**: Matthew 6:9-13

**Forgive others**: Matthew 6:14-15

**Fasting in secret**: Matthew 6:16-18

**Store Treasure in heaven**: Matthew 6:19-21

**Guard your heart**: Matthew 6:22-23

**Do not serve money**: Matthew 6:24

**Do not worry**: Matthew 6:25-34

**Do not judge hypocritically**: Matthew 7:1-5

**Do not give what is Holy to Dogs**: Matthew 7:6

**Ask, Seek, Knock**: Matthew 7:7-12

**Enter Narrow Gate**: Matthew 7:13-14

There are more commands given in the Gospels.

# Jesus addressing backsliding Christians

41 Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?

42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?

43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

45 **But and if** that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to ***be drunken***;

46 **The lord of that servant** will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him **his portion with the unbelievers**.

**Luke 12:41-46 KJV**

# Paul's warning to Christians

19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, 21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: **those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

## Galatians 5:19-21 NRSV

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9 **Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God?**

Do not be deceived! The sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, men who engage in illicit sex, 10 thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, swindlers—**none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.** 11 And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

## 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 NRSV