

# I NEVER KNEW YOU

## MATTHEW 7:21-23

Text: Matthew 7:21-23

### **Matthew 7:21-23**

<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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? <sup>23</sup>And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Introduction:

In these closing words of the Sermon on the Mount, we are told what some will hear when they stand before God.

These words are the most troubling words that anyone can hear.

These words will be heard by many according to verse 22.

Notice:

# 1. TRUTH (vs. 21)

## **Matthew 7:21**

<sup>21</sup> 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.

The Lord unveils one of the most HEARTBREAKING REALITIES in the entire Bible. He says that not everyone who calls Him Lord can claim Him as Lord! He is telling us that there will be some people who will think they are saved and en-route to Heaven, but who, in fact, are still lost and headed to straight Hell!

Jesus makes it clear that not all who profess Him possess Him! You may Acknowledge Him, but you have not been acquired by Him. You know Him, but He doesn't know you!

A false profession of Jesus as Lord won't save! A person may believe in the doctrines of the faith.

They may seem sincere. However, fictitiously saying you know Jesus won't save your soul. Belonging to the church, being a first-class Christian, doing religious stuff, etc, are all honorable, but none of that can save the soul! Salvation comes: "...Except a man be born again..." John.3:3.

## 2. TESTIMONY (VS. 22)

### **Matthew 7:22**

<sup>22</sup> 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?

Notice

### A. Their Appeal

It appears they were sincere in their labor.

There will be much calling on the Lord, and calling out his name on that day. Can't you hear folks crying out.....But Lord.....Wait a minute Lord.....but it will be too late !

They were doing good stuff in God's Name. It's apparent; they professed an Outward expression but never possessed an Inward experience. They were so busy working for self, that they never took the time to worship the Savior!

If this verse teaches us anything at all, it teaches us that we are not the source of our salvation! You can know the religious lingo and language from A to Z, do church work 366 days a year, give 110% of your income, preach and teach till you are blue in the face and come to church 7 days a week, but the truth still remains. "For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not

of yourselves: it is the gift of God not of works lest any man should boast.” Eph.2:8-9

Do you hear us begging, bragging, and boasting? Notice that their whole claim to Heaven rests in what "they" have done! The focus is on self and not on the Savior.

### **3. THE TRAGEDY (VS. 23)**

#### **Matthew 7:23**

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

#### **A. Dreadful Declaration – I never knew you**

All their words of awe and admiration and all their works of dedication and devotion will be declared empty and worthless. They may have had the Redeemer’s name in their mouths, but rebellion was in their hearts. They had claimed to be working in His name. They had claimed that they knew Him. They had claimed a connection, but Jesus confirms the truth. He tells them that neither at anytime in their lives had He ever known them!

#### **B. Dismal Departure – Depart from me**

Finally they will be exposed for what they truly are: False professors!

Close:

The Way of Man Leads to . . . Hell. v.23b (cf. Pr.14:12)

**Proverbs 14:12**

<sup>12</sup>There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

The Way of the Messiah Leads to . . . Heaven. (cf. Jn 14:6)

**John 14:6**

<sup>6</sup>Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.