

Matthew: Jesus, The King of Kings

One Having Authority

Matthew 7:21-29

Sayings of Jesus - word uttered by a living voice

A living God. One who speaks - God wants to speak to you, WITH you.

Previously:

- The Sermon on the Mount
- **Jesus says hard things: It's not condemnation, it's revelation.**
- Ask/Seek/Knock
- Narrow Way - Few that find it
- Knowing Someone by Fruits

Jesus makes clear distinctions between people who say they know God and people who actually know God.

How we ask. The path of life we're on. The fruit of our mouths and our lives.

Who has the authority in your life? The right to tell you what to do?

Air show, joining the military makes you government property

Who's the one you listen to even if you don't like what they say?

And why? Is it only yourself? Is it because of XYZ being burned, etc?

Today: one of the scariest things Jesus has ever said

[Pray]

:21-23

Not everyone who says to Me 'Lord, Lord'

Remember - the way is narrow, there are few who find it

Many proclaim Christ - but it's so evident by their fruit they don't know him.

- *Social media bio says Christ Follower. Posts show Baal worshiper.*
- *Bible verse tattoo. Mouth says all manner of curse words.*
- *Job says Pastor, Author, Bible teacher. Crowd says goat herder, sheep devourer.*
- *Religious in public, life full of sin in private*
- *Not the struggling, but a life lived - defined by, unrepentant of*

Videos of "churches" and "pastors"

- *proclaiming abortion*

- “gay choirs”
- weird demonic dressing up rituals - halloween as the gateway

I wonder why they're even in “church?”

*The demonic attitude of taking over something holy for yourself
exalting yourself in the place of God*

**tradition, ritual != relationship
relationship > ritual**

Scary...They even cast out demons!

*Satan was happy to play along to deceive them into hell!
Catholic priests, rituals. Sometimes work!*

The difference: Actually work vs. illusion of it working

Saul & Witch of Endor

Deuteronomy 18:9-14 NKJV - "When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. "There shall not be found among you [anyone] who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, [or one] who practices witchcraft, [or] a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, "or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. "For all who do these things [are] an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. "You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. "For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you.

Who are these people? Those who practice lawlessness.

Literally, “Work iniquity”

iniquity - anomia

the condition of without law, ignorant of it, violating it
Literally - wickedness

Ironic! I'm sure many of these folks are religious, legalistic!

What's your job? Physically?

How about spiritual work - calling?

What if it's truly just doing iniquity?

How can we tell?

Hebrews 4:12 NKJV - For the word of God [is] living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

compare our lives to the word of God

When there's a difference, which one gives way?

*"t pastor" glad his ordination is now with his fake new name and not his "deadname"
ironically, his new name is his spiritually dead name
he'll be in for a shock on the day of judgment when they call by his deadname*

- *The things some pastors teach about purity (lack of it)*
- *The things some ministries do to get a crowd*
- *The lives lived in secret, but really more often in shameless promotion of wickedness*
- *The flags flown at certain church buildings*
- *The people in the pulpit and the pews*

The stench reaching heaven is not of righteousness.

If we know God...Chances are if it's grieving you, it's grieving God.

Genesis 6:5-6 NKJV - Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every intent of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

Jesus says it now to give them a chance.

But time will run out.

His patience endures, his lovingkindness forever. but to be just, he must allow sin to run it's course and judgment to have it's day

If these things are hitting you (they are me), take it to heart.

Take it to Him. Come to Know Him ... for real!

These people claim to have done these, in Jesus' name (authority, power)

1. **Prophesied** (but they are false prophets)
2. **Cast out demons** (but they themselves work for beelzebub)
3. **Done many wonders (alt: wonderful works)**
 1. strength power, ability
 1. inherent power,
 2. power for performing miracles

3. moral power and excellence of soul
4. the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth
5. power and resources arising from numbers
6. power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

Similar to the word for the power of the Holy Spirit (dynamic power)

Imposter words, miracles, and ministry

even if we're well meaning - our efforts, apart from God, cannot accomplish the work of God

- Intellect
- Ability
- Charisma

In fact, all get in the way of real works of God

unlearned fishermen

paul considers it all rubbish

doesn't use the vain words of man

1 Corinthians 2:13-14 NKJV - These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned.

What's worse, is when we attribute to God works not just of the flesh, but of the spirit of the world, of the antichrist

antichrist - instead of, in place of

just look at the world today - what is exalted. which attitudes. which powers. which skills.

why do we listen to the beautiful people on tv with fame and money and not the poor preacher?

because it appeals to the flesh, and is a picture of satan

Is. 53:2b He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

The worst part of all of this?

Jesus says depart from me, I never knew you

that (like the lamp of the eyes, deep darkness) they think they know God (man up)

but what we really need is for God to know us (God came down)

We don't know what He's like on our own

We like to attribute to Him our attributes. Make him in our image.

But he wants to remake us into his image.

Our image - corrupted by the fall

His image - expressed in Jesus' life, death and resurrection

What's important is: not the works. But the relationship.

How is your relationship with God?

Obedience can be a barometer, but more so the attitude Are we cold, hot or lukewarm?

Do we seek to know Him as He is? Or seek to pick and choose what we like or want to believe.

The hard truths help separate us from what we like.

They help cut away the misconceptions we have about Him and us.

Not to hurt us. But to help us.

Not to push us away. But to draw us close.

Relationship vs. religion

Going back to the physical when the spiritual dries up

Going back to the shadow when we've had the light Himself

Now that Jesus has shown us the problem, He offers us the solution...

:24-29

Closes on a famous story, parable - Earthly story with heavenly meaning

"I will liken him to..." Jesus personal opinion, personal take.

catch a glimpse of his enjoyment in the person who does these things

(Like a proud dad, or a proud fellow soldier, or a close friend whom you admire)

Hearing & Doing = wisdom

Hearing & Not doing = foolishness

Prov 17:16 Why is money in the hand of a fool to buy wisdom since he has no heart for it?

Intelligence isn't the issue for wisdom. It's the heart.

Following Jesus isn't primarily an intellectual exercise.

That's where many go wrong.

But it doesn't mean we throw out our intellect. we sharpen it.

It's not based on feelings or emotions or experiences - grounded on the Word of God.

Colossians 2:6-8 NKJV - As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Jesus as the Chief Cornerstone -all else built on top of Him

Matthew 21:44 NKJV - "And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."

Building a house *Foundation depth, materials, frost level*

Beach is nice! Until the storm comes.

Mountain is secluded but secure.

Hiking on the mountain, but wouldn't want to be out there in the lightning

Our lives as Christians might be secluded.

The storms show what our foundations are made from

Mark 3:25 NKJV - "And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

We can only have one firm foundation. We cannot be divided

We cannot have one foot in heaven and one in the world.

You will not fall up!

We cannot have open borders - spiritually or physically

We must **guard** what is true. What is right.

We must **guard** our relationship with him. Just like we would with a spouse, or a close friend, or our sensitive information (pearls before swine)

It did not fall!

It should have fell, in any other place, with any other construction method.

It would have been demolished

house in great falls

What is your life built on? What do you base your decisions on?

Knowing Jesus? Knowing what the Word says it right and wrong? Or something else?

- Opinion
- Culture
- **False hope**

On sand - great was it's fall!

Complete fall, awful and awesome to watch. Complete destruction. nothing left.

Tsunami in Japan in 2011 - We have no power against nature

So is the life of one without Jesus. Doing life as he designed it.

Even if they survive this life. The fires of judgment will burn everything up.

The flood - all traces washed away

What an awful thing to lose it all - Maui fires

But in our lives, when we lose it all, it's the opportunity God has been wanting.

To build something stronger. Fresher. Better.

Not to build back better or even make your life great again.

But to build it somewhere else. Somewhere permanent.

Somewhere strong

Somewhere holy

Somewhere safe

Somewhere with a better view

Somewhere quiet

Somewhere closer to God

There's no ocean in heaven that we see in Revelation.

Potentially a connection between the ocean and judgment for sin. Flood.

Salt water, bitter, not fresh, not drinkable.

vs Mountain spring...

These things are written that we would come to know Jesus.

Come to have hope. Come to trust in no one and nothing else for everything

Sayings ended - the sermon on the mount is over

People Astonished - ekplēssō - to be struck with amazement, astonished, amazed

Means to expel, drive away, blow out - it blew their socks off. It blew their doors off. It blew the cobwebs out of their faith. It blew out the lies and the empty traditions they grew up with.

This is what we all need.

This is what those who are turning back to some other gospel (and not a gospel indeed) need.

They need the living voice. The voice of Jesus.**One having authority - not as the scribes**

The scribes knew every last punctuation mark

Had passages memorized

Obedyed every little law and ordinance - "tithed mint and cumin"

But Jesus had authority

Judicial decisions, human magistrate, regal crown, freedom of choice, permission, mental power

Why? Jesus was God. But He Knew His Father. Do we?

That's where our authority comes from. Our relationship with Jesus.

I've known at least a few folks who were well taught, years of study, striving, etc.

And only a few of them, very few of them, still felt like they knew God. Still seemed to have love and fruit coming out of their lives. Still had time for others.

I've known quite a few who have gone to the school of hard knocks, the moses school of ministry, raised up, discipled up outside of cemetery...seminary

Who had authority. Who loved. Who expounded the scriptures.

And I'd rather know Jesus all day long and only have the fruit to prove it than know about Him and have a degree on the wall.

How do you know you know Him? Does His authority extend to your life.**Do you want what he wants?**

When he says no, is that ok? Do you obey?

When he says yes, is it what you want?

When he offers the way out, do you trust him and take it?

Authority - Author - he wrote the word of God, He spoke it. He has a perfect story planned for your life, but do we want to write our own story?

Author has full authority to change the plot

It's a heart decision. This will change your thinking.

Romans 10:8-13 NKJV - But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on

Him will not be put to shame. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."