

AT THE MASTER'S FEET:
A study of Jesus' Sermons in the Gospel of Matthew
AMEN Bible Study 2012-2013

THE MASTER'S ETHIC: THE TRUE LIFE

True Wisdom - Matthew 7:13-29

December 13, 2012

7:13-14 I. True wisdom enters the narrow gate.

"Enter by the narrow gate."

:13

A. Many enter the wide gate.

"For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many."

- It is easy.
- It leads to destruction.

:14

B. Few enter the narrow gate.

"For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

- It is hard.
- It leads to life.

7:15-20 II. True wisdom beware of false prophets.

"Beware of false prophets..."

:15

A. False prophets are deceptive.

"...who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves."

cf. Deuteronomy 13:1-3; Jeremiah 14:14; 23:16; Matthew 24:11; Acts 13:6; II Peter 2:1-3; I John 4:1; Revelation 2:14, 15, 20

:16-18, 20

B. You can detect them.

"You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits."

cf. Matthew 12:33-35

:19

C. God will destroy them.

"Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

cf. Matthew 3:10

7:21-23 III. True wisdom walks the talk.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

cf. Matthew 12:50; Luke 6:46

A. Hypocrisy can impress us.

1. orthodox profession
"On that day many will say to me, 'Lord....'"
2. religious zeal
"' Lord, Lord...'"
3. Christian preaching
"...did we not prophesy in your name..."
4. spiritual deliverance
"...and cast our demons in your name..."
5. miraculous ministry
"...and do many mighty works in your name?"

B. It won't impress God.

"And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

7:24-27 IV. True wisdom builds on the rock.

:24, 26

A. Wisdom hears and does.

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

"And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand."

:25, 27

B. Wisdom endures storms.

"And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

"And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

7:28-29 V. True wisdom comes from above.

"And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes."

cf. I Kings 3:6-9; 10:6-10; Proverbs 2:1-8; Daniel 1:17; 2:21; James 3:13-18