

The Sermon on the Mount

Deuces Wild

Matthew 7:13-23

Points to Consider

1. Two Gates
2. Two Trees
3. Two Responses

Two Gates

Matt 7:13-14 *Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.*

He admonishes his disciples to enter by the _____ gate.
_____ will choose which gate they enter. If you do not choose the narrow gate, you have by default chosen the broad way.
If you choose the difficult way, you have chosen _____.
If you choose the broad way, you have chosen _____.
Notice that there are only _____ gates.

Deut 30:19-20 *I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."*

Moses tells the people that the commandment that he was given them was not too _____. It was a simple choice between good and evil, life and death.
Joshua said there were two _____. The people could choose to serve idols or God.

1 Kings 18:21-22 *And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word.*

Elijah said how long will you falter between _____ opinions?
You can only serve _____ master. Only one thing can be _____ in your life.

Luke 13:22-25 *And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.*

The answer to the question is “_____.” There will only be a few people saved. The reason few will enter the narrow gate is because you have to _____ to get in.

John 18:36 – “Fight”; 1 Cor 9:25 – “striveth for the mastery”; 1 Timothy 6:12 – “fight”
It should not come as a shock that most people choose the broad path.

Gen 6:5-8 *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. 6 And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7 So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*

1 Peter 3:20-21 *“...when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.”*

In Noah’s day only _____ souls were saved!
In the city of Sodom there were _____ than ten righteous people. Only four people “_____” the fire sent by God.
During the time of the judges everyone did what was right in their _____ eyes.
When the kingdom was carried away into captivity, only a _____ remained.

Those listening to His sermon would not have been surprised by this.

Jesus has been _____ the gate and showing how difficult the way is from the beginning of the sermon.

Two Trees

Matt 7:15-20 *Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*

Beware! False prophets are actively trying to _____ the gates.
Notice that there are only _____ types of trees: good and bad.
False prophets have always been a part of God’s story.

Matt 24:11-14 *Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

False prophets will be successful!
The result of false teaching is _____ and a lack of love.
The answer is _____.

2 Peter 2:1-3 *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.*

_____ will follow the destructive way of the false teacher.

Their biggest weapon is _____.

This false teacher is a wolf clothed in sheep skin.

1 John 4:1 *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

We need to test false prophets against the _____ of God.

We need to make sure what people are teaching us is in harmony with the _____ of God.

Gal 1:6-9 *I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.*

If an angel from heaven or an apostle on earth taught things contrary to the message of Jesus Christ, they are to be _____.

You will know false teachers by the _____ of their teaching.

Two Responses

Matt 7:21-23 *Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'*

The _____ responses are to do the will of God or not.

These are people doing _____ things in the name of the one they call _____, yet they are still practicing lawlessness.

Jesus does not deny what they have done. He is denying that they were ever part of His kingdom.

Many people will live their entire lives _____ they are on the right path only to find out when it is too late that they have been deceived by the devil.

We are going to talk more next week about building our house on the proper foundation.