

Calvary Chapel on the Horizon
January 1, 2023
Matthew chapter 7 “Not of this World”

I. Introduction:

† So far in the beatitudes we have looked at:

- The Methods of the Heart (Matt 5:1-16)
- The Issues of the Heart (Matt 5:17-45)
- The Wrong Motives of the Heart (Matt 6:1-18)
- The Right Motivation of the Heart (1Cor 13:1-8)
- The Affections of the Heart (Matt 6:19-34)

† Today we will look at the “Our Heart Towards Men” as we begin Matthew chapter 7.

II. How We Look at Others

A. Don't Judge Others

Matthew 7:1-2 Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

1. Salvation

† This is the backslider's favorite verse: “Don't judge me...Christians aren't supposed to judge!”

† Judge not...means condemning to hell – God alone is judge!

† **1 Corinthians 4:3-5** But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. 4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

† For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged...Jesus paid the price for our sins – this isn't eternal condemnation, but may be at the reward seat of Christ.

2. Fruit Inspection

† Not being “Judgmental” doesn't mean, however, that we ignore others behavior when it is contrary to the Bible...

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† **We are to inspect each other’s fruit with a heart for identification and restoration.**

† **Luke 6:43-45** For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bringeth forth good fruit. 44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

† **Galatians 6:1-2** Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; **considering thyself**, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

B. Pointing Out Other’s Sin

Matthew 7:3-5 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

† **The text indicates that the material that the speck is made of is the same material that the beam is made from...thus implying that we see our own sin in others best...**

† **This ties back to the warning to us in helping a brother in Gal 6... considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted...we must remember that we have fallen in similar manner in the past. It is easy to become prideful or judgmental if we take our eyes off of Jesus.**

† **We are also reminded in Romans 15:1-3** We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification. 3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

† **And at the end of 2 Corinthians 5:18** Jesus...hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

C. Discernment Is Necessary

Matthew 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

† **Here we see that “Behavior Correction” is unwise towards unbelievers.**

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† **And that we should not share our treasure, the Gospel, with those unwilling to receive!**

D. Help is Available

Matthew 7:7-11 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

† **The help we need to not be judgmental, to be ministers of reconciliation and to be discerning is immediately available from our source of strength...our FATHER in Heaven. We can: Ask (and the tense is to keep asking), Seek (and keep seeking), and Knock (and keep knocking).**

† **This passage also shows us the goodness of God. He is a good Father and it pleases Him when we desire to have an intimate relationship with Him where we come to Him with all our needs.**

III. The “Golden Rule”

Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

† **Therefore... Confucius said, "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others."**

† **Jesus is telling us that instead of the negative, instead of judging and being critical...be actively LOVING – be patient with others, be kind and selfless and understanding with those around you.**

† **Peter reminds us: 1 Peter 3:8-9** Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

IV. Take the Narrow Way

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

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- † **Strait** means “Narrow” and “Narrow” (in v14) means: *“to press (as grapes), press hard upon”*; this word is used 9 other times in the Bible it is always as *“afflicted, troubled or with tribulation”*.
- † *** Jesus is warning us that we need to follow the narrow way – the way of the Father – and NOT the way of the world.
- † **The world will tell us that the way is easy... “eat, drink & be merry”, they’ll say, “have another toke, snort or drink – it won’t hurt”, but Jesus is calling us to walk a different path!**
- † **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- † **Warren Wiersbe, a famous pastor from the late 1900’s says:** Did your profession of faith in Christ cost you anything? If not, then it was not a true profession. Many people who “trust” Jesus Christ never leave the broad road with its appetites and associations. They have an easy Christianity that makes no demands on them. Yet Jesus said that the narrow way was hard. We cannot walk on two roads, in two different directions, at the same time. (Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). The Bible exposition Comm. (Mt 7:6). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.)
- † **We are to be in the world but not “OF” the world...Rom 12:2** And be not conformed to this world:

V. Beware of False Prophets

Matthew 7:15-20 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

- † **False prophets and teachers...you’ll know them by their fruit!**
 - **Do people grow in the grace of God by their ministry?**
 - **Do people grow in their knowledge of Jesus through their ministry?**
 - **Do people grow in their depth of the Word and live it out?**
- † **Acts 20:29-30** For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

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† **2 Peter 2:1-3** But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, **even denying the Lord that bought them**, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. 3 And **through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you**: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

VI. Beware of Self-Deception

Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone 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. 22 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? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

† **Jesus moves from the deception of others to the possibility of us deceiving ourselves! ...How do we know if we are self-deceived? Certainly not by our “WORKS”.**

† **What does Jesus say? “...I never knew you”.**

† **Jesus desires an intimate, loving, active abiding relationship with us!**

† **Ephesians 5:31-32** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

† **The intimacy and friendship that we find in a godly marriage is what Jesus desires with us!**

† **Not a shallow relationship of convenience...**

VII. Conclusion

† **Matthew 7:24-27** Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

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- † Jesus now concludes the beatitudes with an analogy...
- † Two men, a wise man and a fool – the wise man build his house on a solid rock foundation and his house (his life) is not moved.
- † The fool builds the same house on shifting sand – on the wisdom and cares of this world and it fell in a hugely “bad” way...
- † If Jesus is God and loves us so much that He died for us...where will we build our house?