

Matthew 7 Bible Study

Judge not, that you be not judged. **2** For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. **3** Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? **4** Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? **5** You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. **6** "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Q1. Verse 1 is one of the most misused verses in all of Scripture...Are we not supposed to ever judge anyone? What is its TRUE interpretation? How can we know? (*"Judge not, that you be not judged."*)

Q2. What is the meaning (in context) of verses 2-5? What is Jesus' point in these verses? What kind of judging are we commanded not to do? (*"For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."*)

Q3. What does verse 6 mean? (*"Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you."*)

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. **9** Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? **10** Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? **11** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Q4. Are the verses we just read telling believers that we have a blank check when comes to asking God for things in prayer? Why, or why not?

Q5. What is Jesus really telling us in verses 7-10?

Q6. Many people hold the belief that mankind is basically good. What belief does Jesus Christ hold about mankind, according to verse 11? (*“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”*)

12 “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. **13** “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. **14** For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Q7. What does verse 12 mean? (*“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”*)

Q8. What does the narrow gate symbolize? What does the wide gate symbolize?

According to this, is it easy to follow Christ? What else do the verses tell us?

“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **16** You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17** So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. **18** A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

Q9. Why would Jesus bring up false prophets right after warning of the narrow and wide gates?

Q10. Jesus gives us an example of the proper use of judging when He asks us to judge false prophets/teachers from true ones. What are we to look for according to verses 15-20?

(“15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.”)

21 “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.**22** On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ **23** And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Q11. According to verse 21, will a profession of faith be enough to enter Heaven?

If not, what else is required? *(“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.”)*

Q12. What do the people in verse 22 put their trust in for salvation? *(“On that day*

many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’”)

Q13. Why does Jesus call the people in verse 23 “workers of lawlessness”?

Didn't they affirm Jesus as Lord? What is this a warning from Jesus about? (*“And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”*)

24 “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** 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. **26** 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. **27** 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.”

Q14. In Jesus' example in verses 24-27, what do the following things represent?:

The House -

The Rock -

The Rain, Flood, Wind -

The Sand -

28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, **29** for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

Q15. Who were the Scribes? Why did the crowds think the Scribes taught without the same authority as Jesus?