

# GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT

## *“I Never Knew You”*

Scripture Reading: MATTHEW 7:21-23

- ) **SLIDES 1-6.** Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7-8.** Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) We just completed a 47-week expository (verse-by-verse) study on the Book of GALATIANS. We unpacked many Biblical truths. We will begin another expository study of another book of the NT in a few weeks from now.
- ) **SLIDE 9.** But for today, we will begin a short series that I have titled “*GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT.*” And I have titled today’s message “*I Never Knew You*” (7:23).
- ) Since the dawn of time, people have always been inventing some sort of religious system which, when faithfully obeyed, will pave their way to some type of eternal reward after death. Unfortunately, not every belief system works. The truth is, there is only one belief system that works. And that system is Christianity and the means is through the gospel.
- ) One truth we learned while studying the Book of GALATIANS is that the apostle Paul was extremely adamant about getting the gospel right. Why? Because an incorrect or an incomplete gospel cannot and will not save anyone. It’s the difference between spending an eternity in heaven or an eternity in hell.
- ) I am convinced that there are many people today who believe they are saved—they believe they are OK—they believe they will spend an eternity with Jesus in the eternal bliss of heaven. They believe they have the gospel right. But they do not. The Bible is very clear that many people are deceived into believing this lie. And the enemy loves this deception.

- ) And these same “*many*” people are the ones Jesus is speaking about in MATTHEW 7:21-23. Sure, they prophesied in the name of Jesus. Sure, they cast out demons in the name of Jesus. Sure, they performed miracles in the name of Jesus.
- ) Sure, they attended church every Sunday. Sure, they went on the church mission trips. Sure, they put money in the offering plate and even served on the church board.
- ) But yet these same “*many*”, when passing over from life into death, will hear the most horrifying words any human being will ever hear. “*I never knew you. Depart from Me.*” And then they will be cast out of the presence of Jesus into the eternal pits of hell. And there are no second chances or do-overs.
- ) **SLIDE 10.** MATTHEW 7:13. The news gets even worse. How many find the road to destruction? Many.
- ) **SLIDE 11.** And it is these same “*many*” that Jesus is speaking about to whom He will say, “*I never knew you. Depart from Me.*” Again, these are the most horrifying words any human being will ever hear.
- ) So, where did the “*many*” go wrong? The answer is simple. They did not get the gospel right.
- ) Jesus speaks a parable in MATTHEW 25:1-13 about 10 virgins who are waiting for the bridegroom to appear. Let’s take a look at this parable and make the analogy.
- ) **SLIDE 12.** MATTHEW 25:1. The kingdom of heaven always represents salvation.
- ) **SLIDE 13.** MATTHEW 25:1. The bridegroom represents Jesus either in 1) His return at the end of the age (context) and/or 2) the day a person enters eternity.
- ) **SLIDE 14.** MATTHEW 25:1. The 10 virgins represent religious people who believe their hearts and souls are ready to enter eternity, however their religious system defines that eternity.

- ) **SLIDE 15.** MATTHEW 25:1. The lamps represent the belief system we believe will get us into the kingdom. Remember, when we die our belief system (whatever that may be) is the only thing we take to the grave with us and our character is the only thing we leave behind.
- ) **SLIDE 16.** MATTHEW 25:2-4. And the oil represents truth. Having a religious belief system (a lamp) is not enough. Our belief system must be filled with truth of the Word of God.
- ) **SLIDE 17.** MATTHEW 25:2-4. Five foolish virgins have no truth in their belief system and five prudent virgins do have the truth of God's Word in their belief system.
- ) **SLIDE 18.** MATTHEW 25:5. They all began to sleep. They were all very complacent and satisfied in their belief system.
- ) **SLIDE 19.** MATTHEW 25:6. The day and time is here. These ten virgins are about to meet Jesus—either in His final return (context) or in death.
- ) **SLIDE 20.** MATTHEW 25:7-9. The day has come and the foolish realize they do not have enough truth in their lamps, in their religious belief system, to meet the bridegroom (Jesus).
- ) **SLIDE 21.** MATTHEW 25:7-9. And now they want what the five prudent virgins have.
- ) **SLIDE 22.** MATTHEW 25:7-9. But truth is not something that can be given from one person to another. A person must recognize and acquire truth on their own. Not by osmosis.
- ) **SLIDE 23.** MATTHEW 25:10. Those who are ready, those who had the oil for their lamps, those who had God's truth within their religious belief system were allowed into the kingdom of heaven to partake in a great wedding feast.
- ) **SLIDE 24.** MATTHEW 25:10. The door is now shut. The time for wise decisions has expired. No one else can enter. All those who were prudent and prepared have made it inside.

- ) **SLIDE 25.** MATTHEW 25:11. Sound familiar? These words are identical to the “*many*” who tell Jesus, “*Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?*”
- ) In eternity, these “*many*” now see the truth. In eternity, these “*many*” want another chance. “*We have our oil now Lord. C’mon, let us in. I now realize the prophecies and the casting out of demons and the miracles and all the Sunday attendance and all the money I gave to charities and serving on the church board don’t earn my way to heaven. I have the oil now Lord!*”
- ) **SLIDE 26.** MATTHEW 25:12. Once again, we hear the most horrifying words any human being will ever hear. “*I never knew you. Depart from Me.*” No second chances. No do-overs.
- ) **SLIDE 27.** MATTHEW 25:13. And Jesus gives us a warning. Be ready. You better have the right oil (the truth) for your lamps (within your religious belief system). And there is only one true lamp and that is Christianity and there is only one brand of oil and that is the truth of the Word of God.
- ) BGCC, every person on the face of this earth does have a religious belief system whether they want to admit that or not. Have they, have you locked into the truth?
- ) The last thing that I want as your pastor, as your Spiritual leader, and as your friend is to think you may have the gospel wrong. I don’t want anyone in here or any of my friends or anyone listening to this message to ever hear those horrifying eternal words, “*I never knew you. Depart from Me.*”
- ) So my mission in this short series is to explain to you the gospel. And I better get it right. Next week we begin searching the Scriptures and see what the Word of God teaches us about the gospel. Let’s have the right oil in our lamps.

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