

The Way

False Faith

Matthew 7:21-27

May 9, 2021

Grace Bible Church

Introduction: Do you know _____ you are going? Do you know what _____ will say when you get there? In the end it is God's _____ that counts.

Any honest reader of 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 would have to ask this question: How could a group of people who saw so many miracles, so much evidence of God's presence, fail so _____ at kadesh-barnea and face the verdict of (vs 5)?

It is possible to be surrounded by the right teaching of Scripture, to be raised in a Christian home, to be homeschooled in the faith, to make a public profession of faith, be baptized, not only recite but agree with the creed, to take the Lord's Supper regularly and hear God say, "I never knew you!!"

Last week we learned of the danger of _____ and the fruit that follows. This week we learn of the danger of "_____ of faith".

Key thought: We must beware of the _____ of false profession. How do we avoid this danger? How do avoid hearing, "I never knew you?" How do we avoid being foolish?

- I. False profession is a reality **Jesus** _____. "He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "" (Matthew 13:24-30, ESV)
 - A. Mere profession of faith does not mean we are a true believer. "Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man." (John 2:23-25, ESV)
 1. Profession of faith is important and not to be minimized. "because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." (Romans 10:9-10, ESV)
 2. A proper profession of faith can only be done with the help of the Holy Spirit. "Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:3, ESV)
 - B. Mere intellectual assent does not mean that we are true believers. "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?" (James 2:19-20, ESV) ""Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" (Luke 6:46, ESV)
- II. False professions will not always be recognized _____, but won't be clear until judgment. "The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later." (1 Timothy 5:24, ESV)
- III. A true profession of faith is mark by _____. ""If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15, ESV) The fruit of faith.
 - A. This was a message Jesus followers remembered. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22, ESV) "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?" (James 2:14, ESV) "Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his

word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.” (1 John 2:4–6, ESV)

B. Question: Isn't preaching, exorcism and miracles a part of obedience? Yes it was! “And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.” (Matthew 10:7–8, ESV)

1. However, might public deeds are not proofs in and of themselves. “Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts.” (Exodus 7:11, ESV)

C. What kind of obedience builds the house on the rock?

1. Pursuing the character of Christ. (5:1-12)
2. Pursuing a righteousness that is of the heart (5:17-48)
3. Practicing a faith that is about relationship not rules> (6:1-17)
4. Pursuing a kingdom that is not of this world (6:18-34)
5. Examining ourselves before we examine others (7:1-5)
6. Praying to discover who God is and desiring his blessing (7:8-12)
7. Following the truth wherever it leads (7:13-20)
8. This is the obedience that distinguishes us from the world (5:13-17)

From then on the opposing standards are graphically described, and the way of Jesus commended. Our righteousness is to be deeper because it reaches even our hearts, and our love broader because it embraces even our enemies. In piety we are to avoid the ostentation of hypocrites and in prayer the verbosity of pagans. Instead our giving, praying and fasting are to be real, with no compromise of our Christian integrity. For our treasure we are to choose what endures through eternity, not what disintegrates on earth, and for our master God, not money or possessions. As for our ambition (what preoccupies our mind) this must not be our own material security, but the spread of God's rule and righteousness in the world. John Stott

“What will thrill the heart of God and make the pagans realize that the gospel is true is practical, generous obedience—obedience that transforms our characters (5:11–12), affects our influence (5:13–16), shows itself in practical righteousness (5:17–48), touches our devotional life (6:1–18), radically alters our ambitions (6:19–34), transforms our relationships (7:1–12) and marks us out as totally wholehearted servants of the King (7:13–27). That is what Jesus is looking for. That is the mark of the disciples he calls. That is the kingdom manifesto detailed with immense authority at the outset of his public ministry.” Micheal Green

D. God wants his children to be assured of their relationship with Him. “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13, ESV) The basis of our salvation is:

1. The _____ of God the Son. A question: who or what is the object of your faith? Anything that begins with “I” is wrong.
2. The _____ God the Father? He has accepted the sacrifice of His son, Have you?
3. The _____ of God the Spirit. The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Romans 8:16.

Conclusion: often a strong call to obedience is accompanied by _____. If this is your reaction- good. You are feeling the right thing, but you have to move past that to remember Christ.

- A huge portion of the law in the OT is how to make a _____.
- Obedience includes _____. 1 John 1:9
- Obedience includes _____. Matthew 3:2
- The storm is coming and it is _____. Will your house stand. “But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.” (2 Corinthians 4:7–11, ESV)