

**Title: "On that day, what will He say"**

**Text: Matthew 7:21-23**

## **INTRODUCTION**

> Greetings

> Today's message may be the most important one you will hear.

> This passage is widely known to the professing Christian as the most terrifying passage in the Bible; and it comes from the lips of Jesus himself.

> The timing of this message is truly from God (Joel, Jude, and now Jesus...given to me months ago).

> It comes from the Sermon on the Mount.

>**Big Idea** : There are many professing Christians who have a false assurance of salvation who are not saved and will shockingly be condemned to hell on judgement day.

>**The TakeAway (up front)**: Examine yourself, to see if indeed you are in the faith.

> **Today's audience:**

1. The saved, with full assurance

2, The saved who may struggle at times with assurance

3. The unsaved who know they are not

4. And most specifically, to the audience Jesus was referring to in this passage, the professing Christians who indeed are not saved.

> My prayer is each person will be reached today and touched in a way that will grow them, reassure them or lead to true repentance and faith.

>**Before we pray, let me ask these questions.**

1. Are you saved?

2. Are you certain?

3. What do you believe that makes you think you are?

4. Are you open to inspect yourself today?

> If ever you were going to listen to a sermon, please do so today.... It is so critical that you be open to the transforming power of the word of God. Today could be an eternal life changer. God wants you to know Him. His grace is here today to bring s stark and crystal clear warning. Lay down any pride and hear from God today. Before we open with prayer, I want to share this verse.

Hebrews 4:12.( read verse ).

*"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do"*

Let's Pray

## **SERMON INTRODUCTION**

> Last time I preached, from the Sermon on the Mount ( series on How to Pray), It is the most prolific sermon that is recorded. In the sermon,Jesus is teaching on the Tenets of Christianity, Discipleship, giving us a Christian profile, teaching on prayer fasting,giving, seeking first the Kingdom. and more.

**T/S ..But as we come to the end, His message and perhaps His tone takes a shift..He changes gears and now describes, not the Christian or Christian attribute, but now warns us of the false prophets, the roadway verse the narrow way, the good tree and bad tree, false fruit and real fruit. He also in verses 21-23 teaches that there are false converts and the truly saved, and of two judgements ,heaven and hell.**

T/S Today ,we will look at the two types of professing Christians,the false convert and the true convert. We will also look at the two final judgements, banishment to a real hell and eternal life with the Lord in heaven.

>As we unpack these three verses, we will look at: 1. truths of a false convert with biblical examples, 2. what is the will of God and how that relates to the true convert and lastly,3. what is the fate of the false convert.

## I. THE FALSE CONVERT

**T/S So let me begin with reading Matthew 7:21-22**

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’*

**T/S As we unpack verse 21 and 22 , we will look at truths of the false convert** and then look at characteristics of the false convert from examples in the gospels at the time of Jesus that are just as real as today.

But before we do that, Let me set up the actual scene that will be taking place "On that day" :

### A. " On that day....it's the Day of the Lord

**1.Judgement Day**, the last day of the universe and time as we know it, The righteous fury of the Lord on display as He executes perfect Judgement ( describe His appearance: hair white as snow, eyes like flames of fire, feet burnt bronze like glow in a furnace,out of his mouth a two edged sword .

Read **Isaiah 13:6-9**. *"Wail, for the day of the Lord is near!It will come as destruction from [a]the Almighty. Therefore all hands will fall limp,And every man's heart will melt.*

*They will be terrified,Pains and anguish will take hold of them;They will writhe like a woman in labor,They will look at one another in astonishment,Their faces aflame.Behold, the day of the Lord*

*is coming Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation. And He will exterminate its sinners from it."*

**2. Where and who: Revelation 20:11-12** *Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds."*

>"**The great and small**" ..God haters, atheist, moralist, universalist, cult followers( JW,Mormon,Pope, ), your friends and family who said no thank you to the gospel

>But most specifically and shockingly, the false convert whom Jesus is referring to in this passage.

**3. The Trial of perfect justice, perfect evidence** ( book of deeds will be opened ) ,with no defense attorneys, no objections, no appeals, no parole, no plea bargaining and most frightening no love, no mercy, no grace.. Just truth and just judgement. and if your name was not in the book of life, you are cast in the lake of fire.

4. "**Many will say**" : How many is many ? Jesus said broad is the way that leads to destruction and many will go that way. Narrow is the gate , few find it.. Many must mean the large majority.

>Only a remnant will be saved (Noah, Promised Land, Elijah, Sardis)

**5. What will they say; "Lord, Lord " Profession of Faith....One truth of the false prophet is that they have a convincing profession of faith.**

> Lord , Lord... dramatic emphasis...say not twice but 4 times

> Convincing and powerful profession

> They have convinced themselves they have faith

> It's loud, confident and they believe it , but still are lost

> Actually speaking to Jesus, can you imagine the scene; " Hey Jesus , it's me "

- > Despite an orthodox profession of faith, they still are lost, and probably convinced everyone around them.
- > It is to me the greatest tragedy, the greatest shock in the history of the world.
- > The worst deception in time.

**6. Look what else the false convert will say,"..did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?"**

**> See the second distinctive of the false convert: They do great works in the name of Jesus.**

- > Prophecy in Your name : False prophets and false converts : False gospels, Their last deception;
- > Cast out demons in Your name : Their last deception
- > Mighty miracles/ great works of ministry: Their last deception.
- > Alot of God talk with impressive displays of power, but self-deceived and doomed.

**> Another truth of a false convert is that they have done great works in the name of Jesus.**

Could have pastored a church, worship leader, led Bible studies, leader in Campus Crusades, led their children to Christ, perfect attendance in church, great church member...all this but never truly repented and believed....essentially ,they are busy bodies for Christ with a false confidence in their profession of faith and works in the name of Jesus.

**> Confidence in religious experiences:** Said the sinner's prayer, ( can train a parrot to say the prayer ), listened to my Baptist pastor and did the 5 steps to salvation, rededicated my life to Jesus every 6 months, Went to confession and prayed to Mary everyday like my priest said, got baptized, ..God kept me safe in my car accident, Cried every time I saw the Passion, felt conviction of my sins., 1 Corinthians 13: but not have love..

**> Tragedy..All these works but still lost.** They had confidence in what they did, not in what Christ did..." There must be a mistake, Lord "..

> Paul was concerned about this: **Romans 10:2-3..**" they had a zeal for God..for not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God,"

> They had proud works instead of humble faith.

> This works based religion leads to false confidence, pride, unbelief, independence, fails to recognize their depravity, rejects God's grace and love and ultimately robs the glory of God.... no love for God, only self. :

> The works were a way to purchase a ticket to heaven ; The price paid on Calvary was rejected.

> because of this they are still in their sin and will be condemned.

> **Think about this: If one can earn their way to heaven , how senseless was it for Jesus then to die on a cross**

> **The most significant thing that points to their utter lostness and lack of saving faith is what they did not say, " I trusted solely in Jesus for my salvation, not my works."**

**T/S Lets look now at characteristics of the false convert and some biblical examples.... No difference today.**

**1. Superficial ; John 2:23-25.** Though many believed in His name he was not entrusting Himself to them for He knew what was in man ( no true heart for God)

**2. Self righteous, self glorifying,** Pharisee in **Luke 18** praying, self exalting and showed contempt for the justified sinner

**3. Self learned ( void of Spirit ) and unsundered. John 5:39-40.**

**4. Self seeking, seeking the stuff Jesus gives, unsundered, complain true discipleship is to difficult;** The disciples in **John 6** ( unless eat my flesh ,to difficult so walked)

**5. Sensational, sentimental, sensual, shallow, swayable:** Hosana Disciple, **Mark 11..**" Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord "to suddenly, " Crucify Him "

**6. Second fiddle disciples.** The disciples invited to the Dinner made excuses, **Luke 14;** These examples are all the same today.. Jesus is not Lord, He is second fiddle.

## **II THE TRUE CONVERT**

**T/S Let's now look at the true convert. In verse 21, the verse reads, " Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of the Father who is in heaven will enter."**

>To me, this may be the most key verse in all of the Bible. If Jesus says most of professing Christians are going to hell, then how does one go to heaven ? This poses at least 3 questions to ponder. 1. What is the will of God ? 2. How is one converted to do the will of God and 3. What is the difference in the true convert that enables them to do the will of God ?

**T/S Let us now first look at what the will of God is. Let's look at what Jesus says in John 6.**

#### **A. The Will of God .....To Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ**

1. **John 6; 27** *Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal." **28** *Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?"* **29** *Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."**

2.> **6:38** *For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."*

3.>**John 3:16.** " *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**"*

4.> **John 6:47** " *Truly, truly, I say to you , **he who believes has eternal life***

5.> **1 John 3:23** *This is His commandment, **that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.***

**B. How Does Conversion Happen .....Back to John 6:29 " This is the work of God"....It's a MIRACLE**

1. **John 6:44 " No one can come to the Father unless the Father who sent me draws him"**

**2. 1 Corinthians 1:30** *"But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, [and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,*

**3. It is being BORN AGAIN , THE MIRACLE !**

> **John 3:3 '5/8** *" Truly, truly, I say to you unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God..Born of the water and the Spirit...the wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes, so is everyone who is born of the Spirit. "*

**4. Ezekiel 36:27** *" I will put my Spirit in you and **cause you to walk in my statutes"***

**5. Before the miracle and and the miracle Titus 3: 3** For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. **4** But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared,**5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,** **6** whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs [according to *the* hope of eternal life. **8** This is a trustworthy statement;

**6. Ephesians 2;4 -5** *But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead [n our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),*

**7. 2nd Corinthians 4:6** *" For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."*

**C. What has happened to the True Convert ....( Now a child of God, Indwelt by the Spirit,. New Creation, Supernatural faith, Christ is now your treasure )**

**1.Now a child of God, John 1:12-13:** *"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

**2.Now indwelt by the Spirit Romans 8:15** *"For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"*

**3. Now a new creation 2nd Corinthians 5:7.***"Therefore if anyone is in Christ,he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."*

**4. Now with Supernatural faith John 7:37-38** " *He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'*"

**5. Now Jesus is your treasure: Matthew 13:44** " *Found a treasure buried in a field and from joy over it sells all his possessions and buys the field.*

**D. Because of the miracle, the true convert will now be empowered by the Spirit of God to do God's will with joy.**

1. That is to love God with all his heart, mind, strength, and soul and obey His commandments.
2. Will have a passion for God and His glory
3. He will be made more into the image of Christ as he walks in faithful obedience.

Please watch this video by Piper as he so passionately shares what it means to have Christ as your treasure:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSoZJql8F5k.....24:13 - 30:27> minute marks

> See, this is the difference between the false convert and the true convert. They may look the same on the outside, but their hearts are different, one has a new heart and wants to glorify God, the fake has a proud heart and wants to glorify self.. One goes to heaven, the other goes to hell, and that's where I want to go next as we come to the last verse, The fate of the false convert. :

## **111 THE FATE OF THE FALSE CONVERT**

**T/S Now, as we come to the last verse of this passage, we will see three distinct truths of the reality of the false convert.**

**They are words from the mouth of Jesus that will be astonishing and horrifying beyond comprehension. Let me read the verse.**

**Matthew 7:23** :*And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'*

### **A. Truth # 1 The false convert is condemned to hell. "Depart from me"**

- > Guilty as charged of every evil deed , thought, motive, and word.
- > Justice demands a penalty, a payment, a punishment....
- > " I will declare to them " "Declare" is a legal pronouncement that is final.
- > Hebrews 12:5 ." pursue holiness, without which no one will see the Lord."..there is no holiness just polluted robes sin-laced filthiness. No sanctification/ ie obedience
- > A Christian will be clothed with the wedding clothes of the righteousness of Christ ( 2nd Corinthians 5:17)
- > However, the false convert will have the wrong wedding clothes that take us to the Parable of the Wedding Feast.. The King sees the guest at the wedding and asks him how he got into the wedding without the proper wedding clothes. The man was speechless and the King said " Bind him hand and foot and throw him into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth"

### **B. Truth # 2 The false convert was never known by God**

- > These are Jesus's words...He'e not cutting off a relationship, there never was one.
- > Jesus did not recognize them as true disciples. Nothing in common, did not approve of them
- > Christ did not dwell in their hearts
- > Despite their religious words and works, there was no intimacy with Christ.
- > Isaiah 29;13: " These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."
- > But for the Christian: 1 Corinthians 8:3 " Whoever loves God is known by Him" / John 10 My sheep know me and I know my sheep.
- > Parable of the Ten Virgins... The door was shut, The 5 virgins without the oil, knocked on the door .." Lord, Lord, open up for us" , Bridegroom responds, " Truly, truly, I never knew you"

### **C. Truth # 3 The false convert is a worker of lawlessness**

- > Lawlessness is to have no regard for God's law, absolutely no love for God's law or his ways.
- > All their deeds were performed in their prideful flesh, and the flesh gratifies its own lusts.
- > They have no saving faith, therefore without faith it is impossible to please God.

>So tragic, so sad. At the end, the truth is, the false convert rejected God's plan of salvation and chose to justify himself by their prideful works. "No one will be justified by the works of the law" ( Galatians 2:6). They rejected the will of God. They failed to do this one thing, " that you believe in Him whom he sent. " ( John 6:29).

So the righteous judge must lay down the just sentence:

**Revelation 22:13-14** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

#### IV THE CLOSE THE TAKEAWAY

**T/S What you just heard today is not fiction. It is reality. Jesus said it. That is final.**

>Hell will be the reality for most professing Christians.

>What will be your response to today's word ?

> Please see God's grace here ! His warning, His shake -up, wake-up call . "Today,if you hear His voice do not harden your heart"

#### A. The Response

**1. For all of us: Examine yourself** 2 Corinthian 13:5 "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you ail the test? "

> **The Test : The Word of God ;**

**a. The Book of 1 John:** Are you walking in the light, confessing and repenting of sin, loving God's law and not the world, confessing Him to the world, longing for His return, not practicing sin, sacrificially loving your brother, His law is not burdensome

**b. Beatitudes**

**c. Fruit of the Spirit**

**d. Your treasure**

**2. For the True convert :**

**a.** Give thanks and worship God with a renewed understanding of His sacrifice and rescue from the wrath of God

**b.** Warn others with a renewed fervor and urgency

**c.** Call out the wolves and false prophets and silence them with the truth in love

**3. Unrepentant :** Cry out for the Miracle

**4. And if anyone is sensing a true uneasiness of their salvation,** ask the Lord to show you the way; to return and render or repent for the first time.

Pray this prayer from Psalm 139 "" Search me ,O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any anxious way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way."

**Conclusion :** On that day, what will He say?

I pray it will not be Depart from Me you worker of lawlessness.

**Please cry out for His mercy and grace.**

Let's Pray