

**Series "Guest Speaker"**  
**"I Never Knew You"**  
**Matthew 7:21-23**  
**Pastor Mario Cañedo**

**Matthew 7:13-14**

**Matthew 7:15**

We see that wolves exist among us, but are dressed in sheep's clothing. They speak like us, they look like us, they act like us.

We are told how to recognize them, to see through their camouflage.

**Matthew 7:16<sup>a</sup> You will know them by their fruits.**

**Matthew 7:20 So then, you will know them by their fruits.**

It is here now that Jesus goes on to give us a contrast between "***a profession of faith and works.***"

~What we now have before us is a clear warning to those who profess to know God, those who believe they are a part of the Kingdom of God, but their lives do not reflect the character and qualities of those who are truly His children.

So as to understand this contrast, here we see a "***genuine conversion***" that is accompanied by repentance and a changed life.

That change can be seen in the person because he, or she, recognizes Jesus as Lord.

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

Now there are many people who say that Jesus is Lord but their actions do not prove that. They confess that He is Lord, but their lives are not changing. They are not demonstrating or showing that they are new creatures.

Did this prayer of faith guarantee their salvation?

Was there regret? Repentance?

\*\*\* This is precisely what the early church taught, and the apostles preached repentance and salvation.

**Acts 17:30 Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,**

\*\*\* But what happened to Repent to be saved?

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| <b>1. Verse 21</b> | <b>"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,'</b> |
| <b>2. Verse 22</b> | <b>Many will say to Me; 'Lord, Lord,</b>           |
| <b>3. Verse 23</b> | <b>'I never knew you; they will be rejected</b>    |

## **1. Verse 21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,'**

### **Matthew 7:21**

What we see in this verse are those who simply make a profession of faith. They may even say "Lord," or "Jesus is Lord."

**John 13:13 You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am.**

\*\*\* But this profession of faith requires obedience on our part because we recognize His authority.

So, understand that one can say the right thing, but that is not enough!

### **1 John 1:6**

Then, there are others that say that they love God.

### **1 John 4:20**

Some may even go as far as to say, "It is awesome to walk in this life with Jesus. I love this life with Him.

**1 John 2:6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.**

This is the very reason that Jesus asked them in;

**Luke 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"**

~ There are those who think they are Christians because they believe that Jesus is Lord. They may even believe that Jesus is God.

### **James 2:19**

~ Then there are those who can be zealous for God, enthusiastic about God, in their own way, or in their own religion.

### **Romans 10:2-4**

#### **New Living Translation**

**<sup>2</sup> I know what enthusiasm they have for God, but it is misdirected zeal. <sup>3</sup> For they don't understand God's way of making people right with himself. Refusing to accept God's way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law. <sup>4</sup> For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.**

They listen and repeat the words of the Apostle Paul.

### **Romans 10:9-10**

\*\*\* But what they don't allow is for Him to be Lord and Savior of their lives.

**2 Corinthians 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 fail the test?**

So, we can clearly see and understand as to why Jesus says;

**v. 21 "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.**

\*\*\* It is the gospel that changes people. It transforms the heart, renews the mind, and produces a totally new person. This is a change and a transformation that comes through faith in Christ Jesus.

\*\*\* The evidence that shows that a person has truly received Jesus from the heart is a transformed life. Our behavior and our actions change. This is when one can say, and call Him, Lord because Jesus is truly your Lord.

## **2. Verse 22 Many will say to Me; 'Lord, Lord,**

**Matthew 7:22**

**Matthew 7:13-14**

But is this proof enough that I am doing the will of God?

**did we not prophesy in Your name,**

This is one that speaks in the name of God; it may imply one who prophesies. I like to say "forecasting the future" but generally, it is preaching His Word with accuracy.

**and in Your name cast out demons,**

We know that this authority was given to his disciples.

**Luke 9:1-2**

**Acts 19:13-16**

But the day is coming when they are going to have to give an account for declaring that Jesus is Lord. So, on that day everything will be exposed, including the motives.

## **Exodus 7:11-12**

**Matthew 24:24 For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.**

Once again, our scripture tells us that  
**Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord,**

\*\*\* Many of them will be sincere in their beliefs, but sincerely, they are wrong. Sincerely, they are deceived.

\*\*\* You missed the target and that is the definition of sin.  
"Missing the Mark."

~ After all, look how easy and wide this path is. It is inviting, appealing, and look! Everyone else is going. They give you some of the truth so you buy in, but they cannot give you the full truth because they don't have it.

### **3. Verse 23 'I never knew you; they will be rejected**

#### **Matthew 7:23**

For many, this will be a great surprise. It is in on "That Day," the Day of Judgement, that will bring about many surprises.

The question is not, "Do you know God?"  
But rather, "Does God know you?"  
Does He know you? Do you have a relationship with Him?

Is it possible? Possible to be a person who attends church, serves in church and does not know God?

**'I never knew you;**

Just so we know, the word "knew" means "to approve."

**1 Corinthians 8:3 but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.**

**Galatians 4:9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?**

**2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness."**

Are you doing your will or His will?  
On what path are you on? The wide path? The narrow path?

If you are one of the "many", you need to repent to be on the right path.  
The path of repentance is the path of salvation by grace.  
It's time to submit and be obedient. Submit and be in His will.

**Application:**

- 1.** It is not enough to say "Lord, Lord", there has to be obedience.
- 2.** Do not be in the company of "Many" because the "Many" are living deceived lives. Don't die in the lies of religion, or what you think, your beliefs. What does the Word of God say? Do His will.
- 3.** To be born again is not to merely repeat a prayer or a formula. It is not just making a declaration of faith. It is to repent of your sins and put your trust in Him, by believing in Jesus by faith.
- 4.** The evidence that you have put your trust in Him is demonstrated by a changed life, a new life. There is a transformation that has taken place and it is evidenced by the way you live, by the way you serve.

**John 1:12-13**