



**Title: The Message of the King – The Sermon on the Mount (part 12) – The Warnings of the King.**

**Text:** Matt. 7:13-23

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

**Introduction:**

1. Again, Chapter 7 concludes the Lord's Sermon on the Mount.
2. In Chapter 5 we see the Doctrine of Righteousness; in Chapter 6 & 7, the Practice of Righteousness in relationship to fellow believers, unsaved, and God.
3. This section of Matthew 7 is the warnings of the King.

**I. Warning of the Strait Gate & Narrow Way: (vv.13-14)**

1. Strait – meaning “strict” or narrow (not wide).
2. Wide gate and broad way leads to “destruction” – ruination or loss.
3. Numbers do not determine a good destiny – God's revelation (word) does.

**II. Warning about False Prophets: (vv.15-20)**

1. False Prophets claim to be spokesmen for God BUT are not.
2. Sheep's Clothing – they appear and sound good BUT are not.
3. You will know them by their fruit. We are to be fruit-inspectors.

**III. Warning about False Profession: (vv.21-23)**

1. Good works are not the basis for going to Heaven or entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.
2. Many people profess but do not possess Christ.
3. True and pure religion is seen in obedience to God – “doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven.”

**Conclusion:**

1. The Lord Jesus exhorts his disciples to enter into the “strait” gate.
2. To beware of false prophets – which are known by their fruits.
3. To be His disciples not merely in profession but in practice.