

[18] “A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. [19] Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. [20] So then, you will know them by their fruits. [21] Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven; but the one who does the will of My Father Who is in Heaven. [22] 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?’ [23] And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’

[Matthew 7:18-23]

Did you listen to what Jesus said in Matthew 7:21<sup>(a)</sup>? He said,

“**NOT EVERYONE** who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven....”

**IF “NOT EVERYONE”**, “the Kingdom of Heaven”, then who “will enter”? Jesus answers that question for us in Matthew 7:21<sup>(b)</sup> when He went on to say it is,

“... the **ONE WHO DOES THE WILL** of My Father Who is in heaven”.

So, who are the ones who will **NOT ENTER** the Kingdom of Heaven? Jesus also answers that question in Matthew 7:23<sup>(b)</sup> when He says to those who will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven,

“I never knew you; depart from Me, you who **PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS**.”

Do you remember when a Roman centurion, a gentile, a man of the nation’s came to Jesus, in Matthew 8:5-13 entreating Him to heal his son? When Jesus said in verse 7 He would **COME** and **HEAL** him, in verses 8-9,

... the centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I, too, am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does it.”

Then in verse 10, we learn,

Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled, and said to those who were following, “Truly I say to you, I HAVE NOT FOUND SUCH **GREAT FAITH** WITH **ANYONE IN ISRAEL**.”

Now listen closely to what Jesus concluded in verses 11-12

“And I say to you, that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, **IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**; **BUT** THE SONS OF THE KINGDOM<sup>(of Israel)</sup> **WILL BE CAST OUT INTO** the OUTER DARKNESS; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Please understand, this is not all of those of Israel who will be “cast out”. It will only be those who, as Matthew 7:23<sup>(b)</sup> said, **PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS** who will be “cast out”!

As we move on, Jesus compares the suffering of the **WICKED** to **FIRE**! We learn this in Matthew 13:41-42, where Jesus says,

“The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they **WILL GATHER OUT** of His Kingdom **ALL STUMBLING BLOCKS**, and those who **COMMIT LAWLESSNESS**, and **WILL CAST THEM INTO** the **FURNACE OF FIRE**; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Before moving on, please understand that as Matthew 25:41 teaches us this place of **FIRE** is the

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**ETERNAL FIRE** which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; which is Hell!

In Matthew 5:22 Jesus said,

*“**BUT** I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be guilty before the court; and whoever will say to his brother, ‘Raca,’ will be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever will say, ‘You fool,’ will be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.*

Jesus then later said in Matthew 10:28 that we are,

*"And do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather **FEAR** Him Who **IS ABLE TO DESTROY BOTH SOUL** and **BODY IN HELL**.*

Listen closely to what Jesus teaches us in John 5:25-29, where we hear Him say,

*<sup>[25]</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. <sup>[26]</sup> **FOR** just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; <sup>[27]</sup> and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. <sup>[28]</sup> Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, <sup>[29]</sup> and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, **THOSE WHO COMMITTED the EVIL DEEDS TO a RESURRECTION of JUDGMENT**.*

As I close, please listen to and remember Revelation 20:13-15, where we are taught,

*<sup>[13]</sup> 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.*

*<sup>[14]</sup> And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the **SECOND DEATH**, the lake of fire. <sup>[15]</sup> And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, **THEY WERE THROWN INTO the LAKE OF FIRE**.*

Lord willing, I hope you will join me here again tomorrow, when we will begin a new series!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Will you please now join me in prayer?

O Father God, again Today I give You thanksgiving for opening our eyes to the future home of the wicked! I thank You for giving us these warnings Today, so that we can repent if and when necessary and escape the fiery hell! For this, I now pray and give You thanksgiving in the Name of Christ. Amen!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** Who promises in His Word to never leave you nor forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

*BECAUSE SCRITURE REVEALS TO US THAT THERE IS A FIERY HELL, I SEARCH MYSELF DAILY THAT MY NAME WILL BE WRITTEN IN THE LAMB’S BOOK OF LIFE! -- tom*