

Matthew 7

Pastor Jim Thomas

May 8, 2022

SERMON NOTES



Matthew

The King and His Kingdom

Matthew 7

Building on the Firm Foundation

The Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-7

(Adapted from an outline by John Stott in *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*)

A Christian's character	Matthew 5:1-12
A Christian's influence	Matthew 5:13-16
A Christian's righteousness	Matthew 5:17-48
A Christian's religious practice	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
A Christian's prayer	Matthew 6:7-15
A Christian's ambitions	Matthew 6:19-34
A Christian's discernment	Matthew 7:1-23
A Christian's foundation	Matthew 7:24-29

Some recommended commentaries for further study on the Sermon on the Mount:

- [Studies in the Sermon on the Mount](#) by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones
- [The Message of the Sermon on the Mount](#) by John R.W. Stott
- [The Sermon on the Mount and Human Flourishing](#) by Jonathan T. Pennington
- [The Sermon on the Mount](#) by Sinclair Ferguson
- [Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount](#) by Martin Luther
- [The Sermon on the Mount](#) by R. Kent Hughes

"We are reminded all along that our life here is a journey and a pilgrimage, and that it is leading on to a final judgment, an ultimate assessment, and the determination and proclamation of our final and eternal destiny."

- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*

Building on the Firm Foundation

Matthew 7

- Two kinds of appraisal: judgmentalism vs. discernment (v. 1-6)
- Two kinds of prayer: expectant vs. hopeless (v. 7-11)
- Two kinds of gates (two destinations): the narrow gate that leads to life vs. the wide gate that leads to destruction (v. 12-14)
- Two kinds of prophets, two kinds of trees/fruit: false prophets/ravenous wolves/sick trees which yield rotten fruit vs. true prophets/healthy trees which yield good fruit (v. 15-20)
- Two kinds of response: lip service vs. loving obedience (v. 21-23)
- Two kinds of teachers: original and authoritative vs. derivative and mechanical (v. 28-29)

“Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.”

- Matthew 7:6

“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.”

- Matthew 7:15

“Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.”

- John 7:24

“You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat. It is written: ‘As surely as I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.’ So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother’s way.”

- Romans 14:10-13

“You cannot grow in holiness and holier-than-thou-ness at the same time.”

- Jared C. Wilson

“It is not more narrow to claim that one religion is right than to claim that one way to think about all religions (namely that all are equal) is right. We are all exclusive in our beliefs about religion, but in different ways.”

- Tim Keller, *The Reason for God*

“False teaching dazzles, then it distorts, then it diverts, and finally it destroys. Those are the four stages, time and again.”

- Rico Tice, *Faithful Leaders*

"There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, in the end, 'Thy will be done.'"

- C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*

Matthew 7:24-27

- Two kinds of builders: wise vs. foolish
- Two kinds of foundations: rock vs. sand
- Two kinds of response: action vs. inaction
- Two kinds of results: stand vs. fall

"When the whirlwind passes, the wicked is no more. But the righteous has an everlasting foundation."

- *Proverbs 10:25*

"Christianity is eminently a practical religion: sound doctrine is its root and foundation, but holy living should always be its fruit; and if we want to know what holy living is, let us often think about who Jesus calls 'blessed.'"

- J.C. Ryle

"Just as a great tree is deep-rooted in the soil and draws its nourishment from it, so the Christian is rooted in Christ, the source of his life and strength. Just as the house stands fast because it is built on strong foundations, so the Christian life is resistant to any storm because it is founded on the strength of Christ. Christ is alike the source of the Christian's life and the foundation of his stability."

- William Barclay

"The faith that saves is not believing certain truths, nor even believing that Jesus is a Savior; but it is resting on Him, depending on Him, lying with all your weight on Christ as the foundation of your hope. Believe that He can save you; believe that He will save you; at any rate leave the whole matter of your salvation with Him in unquestioning confidence. Depend upon Him without fear as to your present and eternal salvation. This is the faith which saves the soul."

- Charles Haddon Spurgeon