

Lunch Time Bible Study  
**God With Us**  
A Study of Matthew: "Being Known by God"  
Matthew 7:21-23

May 1, 2018

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*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven but the one who does the will of my Father."  
(Matthew 7:21)*

**I. The Key To Heaven**

- a. Not every key fits every lock. Although, it's possible to have a master key to fit every locked room in a particular building. There is only one key to gain access to heaven. Obey Jesus.
- b. The key to enter the kingdom of heaven is "doing the will of the Father", which is obedience.
  1. First of all it is the will of the Father that every person will be saved, but we must cooperate.
  2. It is God's will for us to grow in our relationship with His Son to strengthen our witness.
  3. God desires us to discover our purpose through knowing Him and His Word.
- c. \*Let's take a moment and discuss Romans 10:9 in light of verse 21.
- d. Based upon Jesus' statement simply saying, Lord, Lord is not the key to heaven, but a recognition there is power in the name.
- e. Saying, "Master, Master" does not open the Kingdom of heaven and neither does "open sesame."
- f. Ultimately, it is not what we *say* that moves God, but what we *do* after what we say. (Psalm 119:11)
- g. *Doing* the will of God does not mean we get to fulfill our personal desires. *Doing* for God means being ready to act when God's directive comes. (an understudy, NFL player)

**II. An Unholy Assumption**

- a. *Assumption* - a thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen, without proof.
- b. Jesus is teaching, but this is also a prophetic utterance. Literally, some will plead and be denied.
- c. Today, much passes as Christianity but "in that day" it will be found to be phony and worthless.
- d. Jesus has already made it clear that He does not like fake and phony religion (e.g. the Pharisees). Therefore, Jesus does not want "imposter disciples" (those who use the power in His name, yet do not walk in obedience to His name).
- e. "Imposter disciples" promote themselves and their "personal ministries." This is "phony business" not "holy business." What perpetuates this? Ministry that is not rooted in the Word.
- f. "I never knew you" means in effect that He does not acknowledge *them* as part of His true family.
- g. Jesus warns us if we are careless in obedience we will be careless in the use of His name. Don't assume that Jesus knows you.

**III. Thoughts and Considerations for Action**

- a. Are you known by the Lord? "Yes, Jesus knows me, He died for me."
- b. Wait a minute: someone can die for you without knowing you. Many of our nation's heroes have sacrificed their lives for those they did not know all for freedom.
- c. "Jesus knows me, because He is all knowing, besides He knows my struggle."
- d. Wait a minute: *Doing* the will of God involves more than just saying, "I will be good" or "I'm trying to do His will"
- e. What gets you known by Jesus is *serious obedience*. A disciple is one who obeys God's Word.
- f. Beloved, we must each make up our mind to do His will. The body and the heart will follow the mind. The mind must be renewed by the Word of God, before obedience becomes a priority.
- g. Some may not want to be known in church, but you can't hide from Jesus. Some ask God for many blessings without making any effort toward obedience. Would you be willing to abundantly bless someone over and over again who directly disobeyed you? Beloved, God will not do it.
- h. Do not make an unholy assumption. Obedience to God's Word will make you known.