

## The Gospel of Matthew

***“Enter by the Narrow Gate”***  
**Responding to Jesus’ Words**  
**Matthew 7:13-29 (pt 2)**

## Matthew 7:21-23

“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.

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?’

And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

### A. Danger of Self-Deception

➤ *self-deception is due to a reliance upon false evidences of salvation*

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

### A. Danger of Self-Deception

#### 1) Possibility of false professions

- a mere confession that Jesus is Lord is not itself saving
- an intellectual assent to correct truth about Jesus is not saving

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

### A. Danger of Self-Deception

#### 2) Reliance upon religious activities

- effective ministry is no sure evidence of one’s salvation
- performing supernatural works is no sure evidence of one’s salvation

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

### B. Necessity of Obedient Faith

➤ *doing the will of God is necessary for our final entrance into the kingdom*

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

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### B. Necessity of Obedient Faith

1) Necessity of vital connection to Jesus through faith

- faith in Jesus, not our righteousness, is the *grounds* for salvation
- a relationship to Jesus (“know”) is the *basis* of entering the kingdom

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

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### B. Necessity of Obedient Faith

2) Obedience is the necessary fruit and evidence of this connection to Jesus

- faith without obedience is not ultimately saving (James 2:14-20)

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

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### 1 John 2:3-5

“And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

The one who says, ‘I have come to know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;

but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.”

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

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### B. Necessity of Obedient Faith

2) Obedience is the necessary fruit and evidence of this connection to Jesus

- the essence of the “Father’s will” that we must do is expressed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount

## A Call to Respond (pt 2)

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### Summary Parable

- the wise builder is the one who “does” the words of Jesus
- the one who does the words of Jesus will stand secure in the storm of God’s final judgment