

## Does God share your opinion? MATTHEW 7:21

### INTRODUCTION: (All scripture is KJV)

Matthew 7: <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> 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? <sup>23</sup> And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

- It has been truly said. No man is ever so wise that he can't be deceived. Case in point you have professed faith in Christ you have believed you are saved but, does God share that opinion.?

**Mathew Henry a biblical scholar from** (18 October 1662 – 22 June 1714) was a British Nonconformist minister and author who was born in Wales but spent much of his life in England. He is best known for the six-volume biblical commentary *Exposition of the Old and New Testaments*.

- He said this....That it ought to be our chief, and constant care to make our calling and election sure, to secure a title to heavens happiness, and then to get the comfortable evidence of it.
1. Sadly though, there are many who are absolutely certain that they have received salvation, when in fact they have embraced and inaccurate and incomplete gospel.
  2. Or who have heard the gospel but have not been obedient to repent and “believe” in the Lord Jesus Christ and to follow Him.
  3. The Gospel passages of scripture of Jesus explaining the Sower and the seed is a prime example of this situation. (Matthew 13:18)

### **Matthew 13:18 (King James) Version**

<sup>18</sup> Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

- **The passage of Matthew 7:21 is terrifying because that it explicitly says.**
- ✓ Because people will say Lord Lord.....have we not done things in your name? and Jesus will say.....I never knew you.....you workers of iniquity.
- ✓ This is a .....Terrifying situation.

Someone who “assumes” they know the Lord or that they “assume that they Honour Lord”, could be met with such a statement from the Lord. Only in the end to find out they have no salvation, and this will be really a terrifying reality.

## **Ephesians 2:8-9 (King James) Version**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye **saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the **gift of God**: <sup>9</sup> **not of works**, lest any man should boast.

1. Salvation is by only believing and trusting by faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. It is not of any works.
2. If you are trusting in Jesus and YOUR GOOD WORKS for salvation then you are NOT saved.
3. Salvation is by Jesus ALONE.

➤ **It will be a terrifying deception.**

1. We need to do this study often because it is critical to our eternal salvation.
2. This study is so important it touches the VERY REASON Christ came.

➤ The Sermon title can be viewed as .... “a **salvation survey.**”

### **Saved or self deceived.**

1. We will learn about self deception, and the **categories of self deception.**
2. And the **Causes of self deception.**

### **And some Important Distinctions between the following**

1. “**True salvation and false salvation**”.
2. **A True faith or a false faith.**

There is Nothing you can be more wrong about, than being wrong about your salvation. It is eternally serious. There is nothing in this life that you can be more wrong about, than that which WILL AFFECT YOU ETERNALLY. Being wrong is eternally serious. There are many people who have not even considered the possibility of being wrong and are in fact not saved.?

### **For Example:**

1. Repenting of your Sins for salvation, is not the same as Believing in Jesus for Salvation in which case as soon as you believe in Jesus by faith, he will forgive you of your sins and you will be “sealed” with the Holy Spirit of Promise. (Ephesians 1:13).
2. Because the bible says “that in due time, whilst we were yet sinners Christ died for us. The book of Romans 5:8 reminds us of that.

**Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were **yet sinners**, Christ died for us.

- ✓ Also Acts 26:18 confirms that when you believe in Jesus your sins are forgiven.

### **Acts 26:17-19 (King James) Version**

<sup>17</sup> delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, **that they may receive forgiveness of sins,** and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

### **TURN WITH ME IN YOUR BIBLES TO MATTHEW 7: 21.....read.....**

#### **In Matthew chapters**

All through Matt chapter 5, 6, and 7 we see the DIVINE STANDARDS, And Principles, and this is the thrust of the message of our Lords sermon.

1. **Question:** What is the Requirement to enter the Kingdom of Heaven?
2. Is to be righteous?...but how can you achieve that.....?

#### **The Lords Sermon on the Mount in Matt 5:20 sums it up.**

**Matthew 5:20** For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. (Romans 10:3)

1. The Kingdom of Heaven is Gods realm, of salvation, and eternal life. It is the place where God dwells.....
2. The Pharisees were, praying and giving alms and fasting, “they said we do not murder, or commit adultery; we keep the minute elements of the law.” Yet the righteousness the Lord wanted far exceeded what they were doing.

#### **HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE PHARASEES RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

1. **The Pharisees interrogated the Blind Man Jesus healed.** They questioned him over and over again because of their unbelief.

#### **John 9:38-40 (King James Version) also see (John 9:14-41)**

38. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.

39. And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

40. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, **Are we blind also?**

2. **Another example of the Pharisee righteousness**

#### **John 8:22-24 (King James Version)**

22. Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. 23. And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. **24. I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.**

- ✓ **Entering the Kingdom ....requires believing that Jesus is God.**

### **It is dependant on righteousness.**

1. Scribes.....thought they were righteous?...???
  2. The Lord said..... **righteousness is necessary**.....no man on his own merit can enter.....
  3. Scribes and Pharisees **Seemed to be righteous**....yet Christ's said...you are to exceed theirs.....
- It is Beyond mans own capability.....**a divine miracle is needed.**
  - Man is unable to attain it on his own.?
  - Even Nicodemus **asked how it was possible** to be born again.?

### **John 3:1**

There was a man of the Pharisees, named **Nicodemus**, a **ruler of the Jews:**

### **John 3:4**

**Nicodemus** saith unto him, **How can a man be born when he is old?** can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

### **John 3:9**

**Nicodemus** answered and said unto him, **How can these things be?**

### **YOU HAVE 2 OPTIONS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS:**

1. YOU either Invent your OWN WAY, or
  2. you come by JESUS WAY.
- The gate.....is.....broad or..... narrow. ....you choose...
1. Easy religion was the Scribes way. It was the broad way.
  2. Jesus is the narrow gate to life eternal.
  3. It is in Jesus who makes us **righteous by believing in Him Alone.**

### **Matthew 7 in Verses 13, 14. Few find the gate to heaven.**

1. **To find**..... the gate.....it requires searching the scriptures.....
2. An examination of yourself. That examination is "do you believe in Jesus as your God and your Saviour ALONE.
3. You don't just stumble into the Kingdom of God.

**1 John 4:14** And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the **Saviour** of the world.

4. No one is seeking Jesus Christ who is God apart from the Scriptures.
5. No one can understand who God is apart from the Scriptures. That is why Romans 3:11 says that there is none that understandeth. Because they are not reading or listening to a preacher of Gods Word, none will seek God. But, once the person hears the preaching of Gods Word, then God will draw him closer by it.

### **Romans 3:11**

There is **none** that understandeth, there is **none** that **seeketh** after God.

6. The Book of Romans further clarifies this point.

### **Romans 10:13-15 Authorized (King James) Version**

**<sup>13</sup> For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

**<sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?**

<sup>15</sup> and how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, **and bring glad tidings of good things!**

7. So hearing the scriptures which is the Word of God is important, because it is **the Word of God that draws a man closer to God.**
  - The following scriptures that I am going to share with you does not teach Calvinism, but teaches that It is God the Father by the Word of God who will draw all men to Jesus. It is the same as what Romans 10:13-15 is teaching.
  - If you take the time to read the verse below in John 6:45 you find the answer. God explains the reason. The reason is that every man needs to be taught of God, and has heard of the Father and learned of the Father comes to Jesus.

### **John 6:43-45 Authorized (King James) Version**

<sup>43</sup> Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> **No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

**45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.**

- **PEOPLE ARE BLINDED BECAUSE THEY ARE GOING THEIR WAY.**

1. However, Jesus says “If you seek me with all your heart you will find me” (OT).
2. You can only find God in the scriptures.

**Jeremiah 29:13**

And ye shall **seek me**, and find **me**, when ye shall search for **me with all your heart**.

**SOME TESTS TO ASK YOURSELF**

- ✓ James said: friendship of the world is enmity with God.

**James 4:4**

Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the **friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**

- ✓ John said. If you Love the world the love of the Father is not in you.

**1 John 2:15**

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. **If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**REASONS WHY THERE IS ONLY A FEW THAT FIND THE NARROW GATE**

1. There is another reason why it is difficult to enter the narrow way...
  - a) Because of False prophets (pastors) who give false teaching and bad advice who stand in the way of new or older believers adding difficulty to a simple salvation and so chasing people to the Broadway.
  - b) Any belief adding anything to the completed work of Jesus on the cross is not salvation, and leads to the Broadway of destruction.

**ANOTHER REASON WHY FEW FIND THE NARROW GATE.**

1. Because of “self-deception”.
2. False professors.
3. Don’t **Kidd your self.**
4. Not a mere verbal profession without “FAITH”.

5. Not Merely intellectual knowledge, without being MIXED WITH FAITH.
6. It must have an outward action. There must be a love of God that follows.
7. The WILL OF GOD is he who has the Father and truly believes in Jesus as God the Saviour for Salvation. Therefore the believer will abide forever.

**1 John 2:17**

And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: **but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

1. But he that doeth.....the will of God.
2. The Lord says.... You're Deceived because of no righteous life. Matthew 7 Verses 21, 23.
3. Our destiny is a **CHOICE** we make...God calls us...but ....will you respond.
4. What we say and what we do.....decides our fate.
5. The Lord was Speaking to people who are **religious**.....don't forget.
6. Whether they sat **Under false prophets** or sat **under truth** they deluded themselves.
7. They Had a **form** of Godliness, but denied the power thereof.

➤ **Churches are jammed with people who are not Christians.**

**Jesus says only a few are.....entering the narrow gate.**

This is the **ultimate delusion** Jesus is saying. Jesus says check it carefully.

1. People are devoid of Christ.- the deluded ones....
2. Judgement is going to be **one big surprise**.....
3. Some of these people are **false prophets. = unbelievers**.....
4. But many of them are really **religious** people. = **unbelievers**...
5. The Bible is filled with **warnings** to people who are deceived....

**ANOTHER WARNING ILLUSTRATION OF THE FEW IS.**

**Matthew 25:1.**

1.Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2.And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3.They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4.But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5.While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

**– The Virgins are symbolic of people who are attached to Christianity.**

- ✓ **They had a Form of godliness.....No salvation. Only religious not righteous.**

### **WHAT MAKES PEOPLE THINK THEY SAVED.?**

1. Because of false doctrine of assurance.....Without Faith, or without knowing who God the Father is, or who Jesus is, they are just told to pray this little prayer and now you saved.....NOT SO.!
2. No-one must question it.....they say.....**you are saved they are told...**
3. BUT if they truly did know who God the Father is, and was taught of Him, and they knew who Jesus Christ is, and they then BY FAITH PRAYED and asked Jesus to save them, then YES they would be saved. But if there was no FAITH then it would be IMPOSSIBLE to please God. Because the scripture says below...

### **Hebrews 11:6**

**But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

4. So this is what people are lacking in salvation. There is NO FAITH.
  - i. **If you not sure that you are saved** do it again.
  - ii. **If you have the FAITH and know who God the Father is and Jesus Christ, call on Jesus again in love for Him to Save you.**



- iii. **If you were a child and did not know, or can't remember, then call on Jesus again. He loves you and is always waiting to hear from you.**

**Jesus said:** The Seed was cast on 4 soils,, .....but only **one** was true.

- ✓ **Don't tell** people they are saved...you will send them to hell if they not.
- When a person exudes, Faith, virtue, patience godliness, love, then shall they know they have salvation and been forgiven of their sins. That's Gods work. That's the Word of the Holy Spirit.
  1. A Lot of people have been **told they are saved** so they believe it.
  2. Another that lulls people is - a **failure of self examination** – They get into a **grace concept**, of everything is forgiveness. They don't examine their sin.
- ✓ **Failure of self examination.....that will do it. That will send you to hell..**
  1. **You must face your sin as your alignment to see if you are Saved (1 Cor 11:28)**
  2. **(2 Cor 13:5) – examine yourself.....if you saved.... God will confirm that.**
- ✓ Look at your sin. Look at your motives. If you are saved God will confirm that.

#### **1 Corinthians 11:28**

But let a man **examine himself**, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

#### **2 Corinthians 13:5**

**Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.** Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

- ✓ **What Religious activity brings.** People think they are saved because they go to church and do other religious works like give to the poor or do bible studies. Whilst that is all good, that cannot bring salvation.
  1. Then there is the **Fair exchange** approach. Trading negatives and positives - I can't be that bad. Look how much good I did.
    - a) In all those cases you are deceived.

#### **The Bottom line is this people,**

1. Do you live **in obedience** to the word of God? Remember obedience is NOT works. Obedience is simply obeying what God says.

2. When you **disobey God** is there a sense of conviction, and remorse?
3. And do you confess it to God right away?

**Luke 13:24**

**Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.**

**Consider the scriptures in 2 Peter 1.**

**2 Peter 1**

1. Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like **precious faith** with us **through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:**

2. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3. According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4. Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

**5. And beside this, giving all diligence** (*carefulness*), **add to your faith virtue** (*good value*); **and to virtue knowledge;**

**6. And to knowledge temperance** (*control*); **and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;**

**7. And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.**

**8. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**9. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.**

**10. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:**

**11. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**

12. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

13. Yea, I think it meet (*necessary*), as long as I am in this tabernacle, **to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;**

1. WHAT A CONTRAST THIS IS TO OUR THINKING OF SALVATION?
2. THIS SHAKES THE VERY FOUNDATION WE ARE WALKING ON?
3. WHAT MAKES YOU SURE THAT YOU ARE HEAVEN BOUND?
4. THE LORD SAID “YOU HAVE NOT CHOSEN ME BUT I HAVE CHOSEN YOU” (John 15:15-17) .....has he really? Did you believe on Jesus?
5. THE LORD CHOOSES WHO HAS BELIEVED ON HIM BECAUSE HE KNOWS THEM.
6. DO YOU KNOW THE LORD IN THIS WAY?
7. DOES HE KNOW YOU?
8. IF NOT NOW IS THE TIME OF YOUR SALATION

**2 Corinthians 6 (King James) Version)**

<sup>1</sup> We then, *as workers together with him*, **beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.** <sup>2</sup> (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; **behold, now is the day of salvation.**)

- Come to Jesus for Salvation.

Pray.....