

Beware of EXPERTS!

Let Jesus provide the expertise while you provide the faith.

This passage is the summary of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. It consists of 5 application statements. 1. Jesus is the only way to successful living, 2. False reporters and fake experts dominate your environment, 3. Legalists dominate the religious world, 4. Wisdom is only acquired by hearing & doing Jesus' words, 5. Only Jesus is expert about any & every subject.

Jesus busts 5 common myths:

Jesus Is the Narrow Gate through this present life

vv13-14

Which experts do you follow? The wide gates?

Fake experts are exposed by their results vv15-20

Many say they have the way to health, wealth, etc.

“Lordship” is not the key to Kingdom entry vv21-23

No one can fool Jesus.

The only reliable life-way is Jesus vv24-27

There is no other life-expert than Jesus vv28-29

Only Jesus is the source of amazing, reliable, pure Truth

Matt 7:13 “Enter through the narrow gate, because the gate is wide & the way is spacious that leads to destruction, & there are many who enter through it. **14** How narrow is the gate & difficult the way that leads to life, and there are few who find it!

15 “Watch out for false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are voracious wolves. **16** You will recognize them by their fruit. Grapes are not gathered from thorns or figs from thistles, are they? **17** In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. **18** A good tree is not able to bear bad fruit, nor a bad tree to bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down & thrown into the fire. **20** So then, you will recognize them by their fruit.

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter into the kingdom of heaven—only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. **22** On that day, many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many powerful deeds in your name?’ **23** Then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you. Go away from me, you lawbreakers!’

24 “Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. **25** The rain fell, the flood came, and the winds beat against that house, but it did not collapse because its foundation had been laid on rock. **26** Everyone who hears these words of mine & does not do them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. **27** The rain fell, the flood came, & the winds beat against that house, & it collapsed—it was utterly destroyed!”

28 When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed by his teaching, **29** because he taught them like one who had authority, not like their experts in the law.

‘Easy Lordship’ vs “Easy Believism”

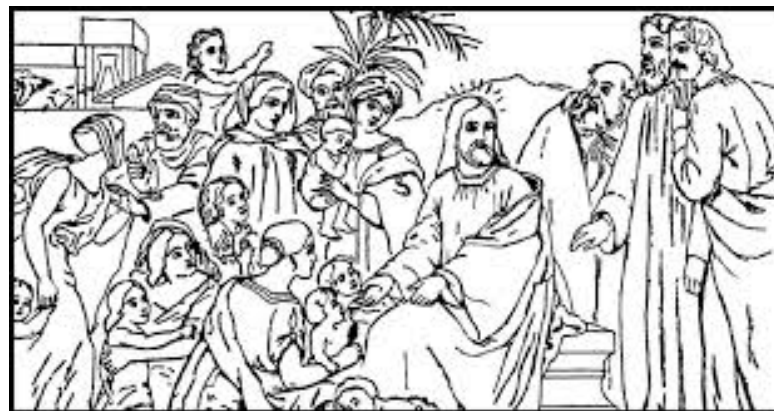
Many religious people deeply hold that *just believing* is not enough, in spite of what Jesus clearly taught in John chapter three. These people are horrified that no special incantations, promises of loyalty, or moral works are necessary (or provide proof) for, or of, eternal life.

Jesus shocks them with, “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.*” Are you kidding, that’s all??? Jesus sternly and clearly warned his disciples not to teach ‘easy Lordship.’ “*Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter into the kingdom of heaven—only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.*” What is the will of Father? To trust Jesus without insulting Him by adding our works, as though our ‘helping God out’ will make our justification more sure.

The Pharisees of the past and the same today can’t accept that faith alone is sufficient. It’s sufficient because Jesus did all the work. We can add, “Lord, Lord!” but that adds nothing effectively to salvation. Only faith in Jesus’ finished work saves.

Don’t be offended by Jesus’ effortless *easy believism*, be offended (along with Jesus) at *easy Lordship*. Being genuinely born again is utterly effortless and totally NOT dependent on the recipient for new Life. Adding my promise that Jesus will now be Lord of my life adds nothing to my salvation nor does it prove anything about the genuineness of my salvation. Signing pledges is not part of genuine salvation. Signing pledges of future work or loyalty is as futile as Peter’s promises to always stand by Jesus. Was Peter ‘really saved’ because he intended & pledged loyalty? Of course not! He was saved by believing alone.

The legalists will blurt out, “But didn’t we do many good works!! Didn’t You hear me say ‘Lord Jesus’ to you countless times!?” It’s easy to have serious intentions and say the word, “Lord.”. That’s easy *Lordship*. Good intentions. Jesus said, “Only those who do the will of my Father will enter into the Kingdom of heaven.” Genuine salvation is not made genuine by good intentions of Lordship toward Jesus. The will of Father is for me to believe in Jesus, not my good intentions. I know this because the bible tells me so. It’s not a matter of Him believing in me and my pledge of “Lord, Lord!” It is faith and faith alone in Jesus who is Lord, even when I fail to treat Him worthily. -Rob



***Jesus closes the
greatest sermon ever
preached with five
myth busters***