

The Parable of the Two Sons

December 1, 2016

Matthew 21:23-32 NASB

23 When He entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?"

24 Jesus said to them, "**I WILL ALSO ASK YOU ONE THING, WHICH IF YOU TELL ME, I WILL ALSO TELL YOU BY WHAT AUTHORITY I DO THESE THINGS.**"

25 "The baptism of John was from what source, from heaven or from men?" And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?'

26 "But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet."

27 **AND ANSWERING JESUS, THEY SAID, "WE DO NOT KNOW." HE ALSO SAID TO THEM, "NEITHER WILL I TELL YOU BY WHAT AUTHORITY I DO THESE THINGS."**

Jesus did not succumb to:

1. Casting His pearls

Matthew 7:6 NASB

7 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.

2. Social Engineering

Colossians 2:16-19 NASB

16 Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day--

17 things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,

19 and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

Matthew 21:23-32 NASB

28 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, '**SON, GO WORK TODAY IN THE VINEYARD.**'

29 "And he answered, '**I WILL NOT**'; but **AFTERWARD HE REGRETTED IT AND WENT.**

30 "The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, '**I WILL, SIR**'; but **HE DID NOT GO.**

31 "**WHICH OF THE TWO DID THE WILL OF HIS FATHER?**" They said, "**THE FIRST.**" Jesus said to them, "**TRULY I SAY TO YOU THAT THE TAX COLLECTORS AND PROSTITUTES WILL GET INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD BEFORE YOU.**"

32 "For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing this, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.

Isaiah 1:11-20 NASB

11 "What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?" Says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle; And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs or goats.

12 "When you come to appear before Me, Who requires of you this trampling of My courts?

13 "Bring your worthless offerings no longer, Incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies-- **I CANNOT ENDURE INIQUITY AND THE SOLEMN ASSEMBLY.**

14 "I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts, They have become a burden to Me; I am weary of bearing them.

15 "So when you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide My eyes from you; Yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen. **YOUR HANDS ARE COVERED WITH BLOOD.**

16 "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; **REMOVE THE EVIL OF YOUR DEEDS FROM MY SIGHT. CEASE TO DO EVIL,**

17 **LEARN TO DO GOOD; SEEK JUSTICE, REPROVE THE RUTHLESS, DEFEND THE ORPHAN, PLEAD FOR THE WIDOW.**

18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.

19 **"IF YOU CONSENT AND OBEY, YOU WILL EAT THE BEST OF THE LAND;**

20 **"BUT IF YOU REFUSE AND REBEL, YOU WILL BE DEVoured BY THE SWORD."** Truly, the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

2 Timothy 3:1-7 NASB

1 But realize this, that **IN THE LAST DAYS DIFFICULT TIMES WILL COME.**

2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

5 **HOLDING TO A FORM (*morphōsis - formation, appearance*) OF GODLINESS, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE DENIED ITS POWER; AVOID SUCH MEN AS THESE.**

6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,

7 **ALWAYS LEARNING AND NEVER ABLE TO COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.**

Jude 1:3-4 NASB

3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you **APPEALING THAT YOU CONTEND EARNESTLY FOR THE FAITH** which was once for all handed down to the saints.

4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, **UNGODLY PERSONS WHO TURN** (*metatithēmi - to exchange, pervert*) **THE GRACE OF OUR GOD INTO LICENTIOUSNESS** (*aselgeia - unbridled lust, excess, lasciviousness*) and **DENY** (*arneomai - to refuse*) **OUR ONLY MASTER AND LORD, JESUS CHRIST.**

James 1:21-26 NASB

21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

22 BUT PROVE YOURSELVES DOERS OF THE WORD, AND NOT MERELY HEARERS WHO DELUDE THEMSELVES.

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

26 IF ANYONE THINKS HIMSELF TO BE RELIGIOUS, AND YET DOES NOT BRIDLE HIS TONGUE BUT DECEIVES HIS OWN HEART, THIS MAN'S RELIGION IS WORTHLESS.

Titus 2:11-15 NASB

11 For **THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED**, bringing salvation to all men,

12 INSTRUCTING US TO DENY UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY DESIRES AND TO LIVE SENSIBLY, RIGHTEOUSLY AND GODLY IN THE PRESENT AGE,

13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

14 WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US TO REDEEM US FROM EVERY LAWLESS DEED, AND TO PURIFY FOR HIMSELF A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, ZEALOUS FOR GOOD DEEDS.

15 **THESE THINGS SPEAK AND EXHORT AND REPROVE WITH ALL AUTHORITY.** Let no one disregard you.

Ephesians 2:8-10 NASB

8 For **BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED THROUGH FAITH**; and **THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD**;

9 **NOT AS A RESULT OF WORKS**, so that no one may boast.

10 **FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS FOR GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED BEFOREHAND SO THAT WE WOULD WALK IN THEM.**

We are not saved by works, but cannot be saved without works. God not only requires our obedience, but now in Jesus makes obedience possible.

Jesus' death and resurrection was not for the forgiveness of sins only, but also for our freedom from sin and the transformation of our heart unto holiness.

The Christian will struggle against sin in the flesh until he/she is liberated from the physical body; but when the Christian sins, there is remorse, hatred for and a turning from the sin (repentance).