

“NOT EVERYONE”

Mt.7:21-23

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Unfortunately, often times what man thinks about himself and his spiritual condition is not what God knows it to be. Cf. Prov.14:12; Mt.6:7; Jno.5:39,40; 16:1-3; Rom.2:3; Gal.6:3; Rev.3:15-19.
2. The N.T. often warns of the possibility of being deceived, either by self or by others, Lk.21:8; 1Cor.6:9; 15:33; Gal.6:7; 1Tim.2:14; 2Tim.3:13; Jas.1:22 (Cf. 2Cor.4:12; 2:17; 11:13-15).
3. Based on these introductory thoughts, we shall focus our attention on the expression “not everyone” found in and the sobering truth to which it introduces us in Mt.7:21-23.
4. As we focus our attention on the expression “not everyone,” consider with me the following Biblical facts: --

II. DISCUSSION

A. NOT EVERYONE WHO IS RELIGIOUS AND WHO PROFESSES FAITH IN JESUS AS LORD AND CLIMS TO ACT BY HIS AUTHORITY OR TO PERFORM HIS ACTS OF SERVICE IN JESUS’ NAME SHALL BE SAVED, Mt.7:21-23.

1. What they believed: Jesus is Lord.
2. What they would claim at that day: They had done all their works in his name, V.22.
3. In spite of this, what was their fate? V.23a.
4. Why was this their fate in spite of their claim to faith in him and their claim to faithful service to him? V.23b.
5. Jesus’ further explanation in Vv.24-27 reveals why he charged them with being “workers of iniquity” or “lawless ones.”

B. NOT EVERYONE WHO HONESTLY BELIEVES HE IS RIGHT RELIGIOUSLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD IS, Ac.26:9-11; 1Tim.1:12-15; Prov.14:12.

1. The cases of conversion in the Book of Acts is proof of this proposition starting with Ac.2 and Pentecost.

C. NOT EVERYONE WHO PRAYS TO THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.

1. Mt.7:21-23.
2. Jno.9:31.
3. Prov.28:9.
4. 1Pet.3:12.
5. 1Jno.3:22; 5:14.
6. Jas.1:6-8; Rom.10:17.

D. NOT EVERYONE WILL BE SAVED AS THE DOCTRINE OF UNIVERSALISM CLAIMS.

1. According to Jesus in Mt.7:13,14 the majority of people will be lost.
2. According to Mt.25:31-46 some will be lost and some saved.
3. See Jno.5:39,40; 8:24; Jno.1:11.
4. Ac.13:46.
5. The doctrine of Universalism is absolutely false!

E. NOT EVERYONE LOVES “THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD” BY WHICH ONE HAS “THE LIGHT OF LIFE,” BY WHICH THEY ESCAPE CONDEMNATION.

1. Jesus is “the light of the world,” Jno.8:12a.
2. The one who follows him does “not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life,” Jno.8:12b. Cf. 1Jno.1:5-7.
3. And the entrance of God’s words “giveth light,” Psa.119:130. The word of God hidden in the heart of man keeps him from sinning, Psa.119:11.
4. In spite of the truth and the blessing of this, we learn from Jno.3:19 that “men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.” Then note Vv.19-21. Cf. 2Th.2:10-12; 2Cor.4:3,4; Psa.119:127,128.

F. NOT EVERYONE IS HONEST.

1. 1Tim.4:1,2; Tit.1:10-12; 2Pet.2:1-3; 1Jno.1:5,6; Jude 3,4; Rev.21:8; Ac.5:1-11.
2. People lie.
3. Professed Christians lie.
4. Religious teachers lie.
5. Pious acting preachers lie.
6. Lying is a common sin.

G. NOT EVERYONE PROFESSING FAITH IN AND LOVE FOR THE LORD LOVES HIM, WITHOUT WHICH ONE CANNOT BE SAVED.

1. 1Jno.4:8 (2Th.1:6-10); 1Jno.4:16.
2. How can I say with any confidence that not everyone who professes faith in and love for the Lord loves him?
3. I can say it on the basis of the fact that some who so profess such faith and love do not keep his commandments which denies their claim, 1Jno.5:3; 2:3-6; Jno.14:15,21,23,24.
4. Heb.5:8,9; Lk.6:46.

H. NOT EVERYONE IN THE LORD'S CHURCH WILL BE SAVED ETERNALLY!

1. To enter or to become a member of the Lord's church one must of necessity be saved from past sins, Ac.2:36-41,47; 1Cor.12:12,13; Eph.5:23-27.
2. But one may fall from grace and be a castaway, be disqualified, or fail shamefully of the prize, and suffer the vengeance of the Lord, 1Cor.9:27; Gal.5:4; Heb.10:28-31; 2Pet.2:20-22; Rev.3:14-19.

III. CONCLUSION

1. Jesus tells how to make sure we will be acceptable to him "in that day," Mt.7:24-27.
2. Peter declares how to make our calling and election sure, 2Pet.1:5-11.
3. Think seriously about Prov.14:12 as our final point.
 - a. Paraphrase: "Before every man there lies a wide and pleasant road that seems right but ends in death."
 - b. Men are often led into things that do not end as they expected.
 - c. Sometimes people do the wrong thing when they think they are doing the wise and desirable and right thing – like mice eating poison bait on a trap or fish taking the bait on a fish hook.
 - d. This is even more tragically true religiously.
 - e. False teachers may be flannel mouthed and may look and sound like sheep even though they are ravening wolves, Mt.7:15.
 - f. Counterfeits are made to resemble the genuine. And the better imitation they are the more deceitful and dangerous they are.
 - g. So the devil pawns off false religions on the unsuspecting, and denominational churches started by men for the church belonging to Christ.
 - h. Many errors occur this way. In religion such is not only "deadly," but eternally so! Now reconsider our text: Mt.7:21-23!