You Will Know Them By Their Fruits Wed 2/7/24

Matthew 7:14-15 NKJV

14Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

15“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

*Keep away from false prophets or teachers.*

# 1 John 4:1 NKJV

# 4 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

# Matthew 7:16 NKJV

# 16You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

# *Ways false prophets are known; by outward general conduct.*

# Matthew 5:20 NKJV

# 20For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

# Matthew 6:1-24 NKJV

# 6 “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

# 2Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

# 3But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

# 4that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

# 5“And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

# 6But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place;* and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

# 7And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do.* For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

# 8“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

# 9In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

# 10Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.

# 11Give us this day our daily bread.

# 12And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

# 13And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

# 14“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

# 15But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

# 16“Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

# 17But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,

# 18so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who *is* in the secret *place;* and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

# 19“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;

# 20but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

# 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

# 22“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.

# 23But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great *is* that darkness!

# 24“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

# *By their inward state.*

# Matthew 5:22 NKJV

# 22But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.

# Mark 7:21-23 NKJV

# 21For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

# 22thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. 23All these evil things come from within and defile a man.”

# *By the kind of fruit in works produced.*

# Matthew 7:16-20 NKJV

# 16You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

# 17Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

# 18A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit.

# 19Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

# 20Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

# *Be the kind of fruit in doctrine taught.*

# Matthew 12:33-37

# 33“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by *its* fruit.

# 34Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

# 35A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

# 36But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

# 37For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

# 1 Timothy 4:1-6 NKJV

# 4 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

# 2speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

# 3forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

# 4For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;

# 5for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

# 6If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.