

Matthew Series

Lesson #163

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Faith and Works;

Eternal Life and Eternal Death

Matthew 25:31–46

Matthew 25:31–46

- 1. Review: What is going on here? What have we learned so far?**
- 2. What is the connection to the previous three parables?**
- 3. What is the significance of “Son of Man” and “throne of His glory?”**
- 4. Which judgment is this—Great White Throne, Judgment Seat of Christ, or something else?**
- 5. Are the “sheep” saved by works?**
- 6. What are the implications for us?**

Matthew 25:31–46

- 1. Review: What is the context? Who are “the least of these my brethren”?**
- 2. What is the Gospel [Old Testament; Gospel of the Kingdom; Church Age]?**
- 3. What is the relationship between “faith and works”?**
- 4. How did the sheep become righteous?**
- 5. What is “eternal fire”?**
- 6. What are the implications for us?**

Matt. 24:3, “Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, ‘Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?’ ”

παρουσία *parousia*

gen fem sing 1. The state of being present; 2. Arrival as the first stage in presence. BDAG cf., Acts 1:6

Matthew 25:31–46

- 1. Review: What is the context? Who are “the least of these my brethren”?**

Matthew 25:31–46

Matt. 10:42, “And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

Matthew 25:31–46

Matt. 18:6, “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

Matt. 18:10, “Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”

Matt. 18:14, “Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

Matthew 25:31–46

- 1. Review: What is the context? Who are “the least of these my brethren”?**
- 2. What is the Gospel [Old Testament; Gospel of the Kingdom; Church Age]?**

Matt. 4:23, “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.” [Matt. 9:35]

Mark 1:14, “Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

Mark 1:15, “and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.’ ”

Matt. 24:14, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

The Gospel of the Church Age

Eph. 2:8–9, “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.”

Titus 3:5, “He saved us, not on the basis of works which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,”

Rom. 11:6, “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works [*ek plus gen. of ergon*], otherwise grace is no longer grace.”

Rev. 22:1, “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

Rev. 22:3, “And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.”

Rev 5:6, “And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.”

Matthew 25:31–46

- 1. Review: What is the context? Who are “the least of these my brethren”?**
- 2. What is the Gospel [Old Testament; Gospel of the Kingdom; Church Age]?**
- 3. What is the relationship between “faith and works”?**

Matthew 25:37, “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?’ ”

Matthew 25:38, “ ‘When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You?’ ”

Matthew 25:39, “ ‘Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ”

Question 1: What is the relationship of faith to works?

James 2:14–26

Justification = faith minus works

Justification = faith plus works (in combination)

Justification = faith plus works (as the necessary result)

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1. James 2:14–17

**The Principle:
Doctrine without
application is useless**

2. James 2:18–19

**The Objector:
Doctrine is all you need**

3. James 2:20–26

**Illustrations:
Abraham and Rahab
Applied doctrine**

James 2:14, “What use is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him?”

What spiritual benefit is it my brethren if someone claims to have doctrine, knows what the Bible teaches, but does not apply it? Can that doctrine deliver him from the destructive and deadly consequences of sin?

James 2:15, “If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,

James 2:16, “and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,’ and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?”

Matt. 25:35, “ ‘for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in;

Matt. 25:36, “ ‘I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ”

James 2:17, “Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead [useless, not non-existent], being by itself.”

Objector:

James 2:18, “But someone may well say, ‘You have faith, and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.’”

James 2:19, “You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.”

James:

James 2:20, “But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?”

James 2:23, “And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’ And he was called the friend of God.

James 2:24, “You see then that a man is justified by works, and not only by faith” [two types of justification—one for eternal salvation, one for spiritual maturation].