

A SCRIPTURE NO ONE LIKES!

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said some wonderful things. But there is one statement most people don't like.

Matthew 7:21-23 says... *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord’, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?” And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers.’*

This statement is unpopular because it sounds so harsh and unfair. Jesus is saying there are religious people who do good works and praise Jesus who will be lost. These people even call Jesus Lord. And Jesus will call them evildoers.

Here is the deal. Calling Jesus Lord is a great thing. But, if you call Him Lord and refuse to submit to Him, you just told a lie.

Jesus is saying...

1. Submission to Him is essential to entering the kingdom.
2. Obeying the will of God is essential to entering the kingdom.
3. Good works will not buy your way into the kingdom.
4. Saying ‘Lord, Lord’ will not get you into the kingdom.
5. Even miracles and mighty works will not get you into the kingdom.

Jesus is also saying...

1. Claiming a relationship to Jesus when you do not have such a relationship is a lie.
2. Pretending to be under His Lordship when you are not is hypocrisy.
3. Lying and Hypocrisy are evil and those who do such things are evildoers.

So, instead of only saying Lord, Lord, we should humble ourselves before Him. If He is our Lord, we obey Him.