



Chapter 7:7-20

- Matt. 7:7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.
- Matt. 7:8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.
- Matt. 7:9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?
- Matt. 7:10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent?
- Matt. 7:11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!
- Matt. 7:12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.
- Matt. 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.
- Matt. 7:14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.
- Matt. 7:15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.
- Matt. 7:16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?
- Matt. 7:17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.
- Matt. 7:18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.
- Matt. 7:19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- Matt. 7:20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Context

You'll remember that when we began studying the Sermon on the Mount we identified the key verse to understanding the subject and application of the Lord's sermon as Matthew 5:20...

"For 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."

His statement gets to the core questions in the heart of every person; "how is a person made righteous so as to gain entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven?"

Jesus deals with this question in our text by using contrasting examples so as to demonstrate the wrong way and the right way to live a righteous life.

Observations & Discussion

1. In verses 7-11 Jesus contrasts **Two Fathers**; what is Jesus teaching us about our relationship to the Heavenly Father?

2. Vs. 12, what is Jesus teaching us about the “spirit” of the Law? How does what He says here summarize the **Two Interpretations** of the Law (His vs. the Pharisees) that He emphasized in the previous two chapters?

3. In vs. 13-14 Jesus contrasts **Two Paths**; what is Jesus teaching us about our choices in life?

4. In vs. 15-20 Jesus contrasts **Two Trees**; what is Jesus teaching us in these verses? Do you see any relationship between the Two Paths and the Two Trees? If so, what is the relationship?

5. How does what Jesus taught in this section relate to a “righteousness that exceeds the righteousness of the scribes & Pharisees”?