

Questions for Gospel Harmony #33 – The Sermon on the Mount (Part 15)

Matthew 7.13-14/Matthew 7.15-20; Luke 6.43-45

1. What are the differences between the gate that leads to life and the gate that leads to destruction? (Matthew 7.7-8)
2. What is a “false prophet”? Why does Jesus say that we should “beware of” them? Explain the illustration of wolves in sheep’s clothing. (Matthew 7.15)
3. How will a person “know” a false prophet? What is the “fruits” of a false prophet? Explain the statements: “Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. **For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.** A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.” What is the fate of trees that do not bear good fruit and what does this illustration mean? (Matthew 7.16-20; Luke 6.43-44)
4. What is “the treasure” of a man’s heart? What is the connection between a man’s heart and what he speaks? How does this statement relate to the context of identifying false prophets? (Luke 6.45)

Matthew 7.15-20; Luke 6.43-45

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. **For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.** A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. **For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush.** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, by their fruits you will know them. **A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.**