

MATTHEW 7:21-23



"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS."

2 FOUNDATION BIBLICAL TRUTHS



- 1. God is Sovereign.
- 2. We are held accountable for our actions.

SOMETIMES FOUND WOVEN THROUGH SEVERAL CHAPTERS

God is sovereign, even over the hearts of men:

- ✓ Ex. 4:21 "When you go back to Egypt see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your power; but I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go."
- ✓ Ex. 7:3 ""But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt."
- ✓ Ex. 9:12 "The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Also 10:20, 27)

We are responsible for our actions:

- ✓ Ex. 8:15 "When Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not listen to them."
- ✓ Ex. 8:32 "But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also..." (Ex. 8:32)
- ✓ Ex. 9:34 "But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned again and hardened his heart."



SALVATION NOT A WORK OF MAN BUT OF GOD WHO CHOOSES/CALLS

Israelites No Exception

a) v. 6 A Group within a Group

b) v. 7-8a Not based on Ancestry/Physical descendancy

c) vv. 8b-10 Must be a child of the Promise (through a miracle of birth)

d) vv. 11-13 God chooses According to HIS will.

- 6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For they are not all Israe who are descended from Israel;
- 7 nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED."
- 8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.
- 9 For this is the word of promise: "AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON."
- 10 And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac;
- 11 for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,
- 12 it was said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER."
- 13 Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

What is our Context?

The salvation of Jewish individuals and whether or not God's promises to Israel have failed.

Who is Israel?

Israel (not the church)

Who are "children of God/Promise?"

Believers, but Paul is specifically talking about Jewish believers.

Paul's point in quoting OT passages?

- He's putting on display God's sovereign prerogative to choose.
- NOT about nations

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TRUE ISRAELITE

JOHN 1:47

"Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!"

- Indeed—means "Corresponding to what is really so, truly, in truth, actually." BDAG.
- <u>Deceit</u>—"No cunning, no treachery, someone who does not speak deceitfully." BDAG

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GENESIS 21:9-12

"Now Sarah saw the <u>son of Hagar</u> the Egyptian, whom she had <u>borne to Abraham</u>, mocking. Therefore she said to Abraham, "Drive out this maid and <u>her son</u>, for the son of this maid shall not be an heir with my <u>son Isaac</u>."

"The matter distressed Abraham greatly because of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid; whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named."

ABRAHAM HAD MANY SONS

- Ishmael with Hagar (first born)
- Isaac with Sarah.
- "Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah." with Keturah (Gen. 25:1-2)
- They were not ALL chosen by God.
- They were not ALL "Children of the Promise" of God.
- ONLY Isaac was Chosen!

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JUST BEING A PHYSICAL DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM WON'T SAVE YOU



Luke 3:8 "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that <u>from these stones</u> **God** is able to <u>raise up children to Abraham</u>."

YOU MUST BE A SPIRITUAL "CHILD" OF ABRAHAM TO INHERIT THE PROMISE.

Abraham:

- Believed that God was the Lord of the Universe. (Gen. 14:22; 24:3)
- Believed that God was the supreme Judge of mankind. (Gen. 15:14; 18:25)
- Controlled Nature. (18:14; 19:24; 20:17)
- Saw Him as Highly exalted (14:22) and eternal. (21:33)
- Was obedient to the Lord in faith and trust. (11:31; 12:1, 4; 15:7)
- Was a pilgrim, going wherever the Lord guided. (Heb. 11:8ff)
- Great faith—believing that God would raise Isaac from the dead. (22:12, 18)
- Kind toward strangers, let his home in godliness, loved his family, and believed God. (18:2-8, 21:8; 18:19; 14:15; 15:6)
- He was chosen by God (Neh 9:7)

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