

THE SAYINGS OF JESUS

INTRODUCTION

As Jesus neared the end of the Sermon on the Mount, He looks to the future, and explains how “many” (not just a “few”) will claim to have prepared them for heaven in this life, but Jesus will reject them because they had not done the will of the Father in heaven. Then, he declares, that the “will” of His Father in heaven is the same as what HE, the Son of the Father, has made known in His “sayings,.” He said, “Therefore, whosoever heareth these **sayings** of mine, and doeth them,” shall be likened to a wise man who builds his house upon a rock, and his house shall stand. Finally, Matthew, the writer of the entire book that bears his name, refers TO “these sayings” of Jesus, as being 2 things: (1) Christ’s doctrine, v. 28; and (2) Authoritative, as it comes **from** the Father, and was given unto Him. Matt. 28:18

Now let’s look at the “sayings” of Jesus (1) Before the cross, (2) On the Cross, and (3) After the cross.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, the “sayings” of Jesus BEFORE THE CROSS.

A. His “sayings” began in the Sermon on the Mount, where He gives what we might call the “constitution” for the kingdom of God.

1. The word “kingdom is used in the very 1st (as well as the 8th) beatitude recorded in Matthew 5. Read Matt. 5:1-3, 10
2. Jesus refers to “entering” and being “in” the kingdom of heaven, which is the church. Matt. 5:19-20
3. He used the word “say” (a form of “saying”) 8 times in the entire sermon, suggesting that it is a message FOR the kingdom, and those IN the kingdom, as being that which He is declaring in this sermon,.
4. Six (6) times in chapter 5, He uses the word “say” (in the term “I say”), in **contrast** with what Moses in “old time” said, in the passages He quotes from the Old Testament.
 - a. Some say Jesus was merely explaining what Moses meant in those passages.
 - b. However, each time He begins His “saying”, the word “but” is used, signifying a contrast (not an explanation of) the law of Moses.
 - c. Then, He goes on to say, “I say unto you.”

B. Finally, Jesus explains the importance of what HE is “saying”, for which all will be accountable in the day of judgment. Matt. 7:21-24 (Read and explain)

1. Before the cross, Jesus spoke concerning “being born again” in John 3:3-7, which applies AFTER the cross. 1 Pet. 1:22 -23
2. Likewise, what Jesus spoke in the Sermon on the Mount also applies to those who live after the cross.

II. 2nd, the “sayings” of Jesus ON THE CROSS.

A. Jesus spoke of “**forgiveness.**” Luke 23:34

1. The murderers were **not** forgiven immediately, but the prayer was open to it later.
2. If they were forgiven at that point, it was before they were convicted of sin, before they repented and accepted all the terms of forgiveness, and were still classified as murderers. Acts 2:23, 36
3. Some 3,000 of them were forgiven when they obeyed the one they killed. v. 37, 38, 40-41, 47

- B. Jesus spoke of **“life beyond the grave.”** Luke 23:43
- C. Jesus spoke of **“affection.”** John 19:26-27; Rom. 2:31; Eph. 6:2
- D. Jesus spoke of **“despair.”** Matt. 27:46; Mark 15:34
- E. Jesus spoke of **“physical needs.”** John 19:28
- F. Jesus spoke of **“victory.”** John 19:30; cf 2 Tim. 4:6-8; 1 Cor. 15:50-57
- G. Jesus spoke of **“commitment”** Luke 23:46

III. 3rd, the “sayings” of Jesus AFTER THE CROSS.

- A. Jesus spoke of His complete “authority.” cf Matt. 7:29; 28:18-20; John 12:48
- B. Jesus also spoke of the conditions of salvation in the accounts of the great commission.
 1. One passage reveals what He said about being “taught” and being “baptized.”
Matt. 28:18-20
 2. Another passage reveals what Jesus said about “believing” **and** being baptized.
Mark 16:15-16
 3. A third passage reveals what Jesus said about “repentance.” Luke 24:47
 4. A summation of all these “sayings” shows that being taught, believing the gospel, repentance of sins, and being baptized are all necessary to salvation.
 - a. Every term is important, and not one of them will save by itself.
 - b. The gospel requires that faith alone does not save, neither does baptism alone.

CONCLUSION

- I. We are blessed indeed to be able to HEAR and LEARN what Jesus had to “say” about being saved now, and eternally in heaven.
- II. The real blessing though, is enjoyed when we OBEY the “sayings” of Jesus, and the blessings associated with them. Luke 6:46; Rev. 22:14

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