

## **Destiny's Decision**

**Matthew 7:13–14**

**"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**. Because **narrow** is the gate **and difficult** is the way which leads to **life**, and there are **few who find it**."

### ***1. The "crossroads" of life!***

**Proverbs 4:26; Joshua 24:15;**

**2 Samuel 24:1-25 (vs. 13);**

**Proverbs 1:28-31**

### ***2. God gives facts about both!***

***3. "Life" takes effort! Luke 13:23-30***



## **Destiny's Decision**

## **Matthew 7:15**

**"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."**

### ***1. Not everyone teaches the truth!***

**Jeremiah 23:16; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 12-15; Galatians 1:6-8; 1 Timothy 6:3-5**

### ***2. Deception rules! Ephesians 6:3-6***

**Matthew 24:4-5,11,24; Acts 20:29-31;**

### ***3. Ulterior motives Proverbs 23:6-8;***

**Romans 16:17-18**



## Destiny's Decision

## Matthew 7:16-20

**"You will know them by their fruits.** Do men gather **grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?** **17** Even so, every **good tree** bears **good fruit**, but a **bad tree** bears **bad fruit.** **18** "A **good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor** can a **bad tree bear good fruit.** **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** **Therefore by their fruits you will know them."**

- 1. Judging (vs.1) is NOT fruit inspection!***
- 2. Judgment will NOT miss any bad tree!***
- 3. What is preached is what is produced!***

## **Destiny's Decision**

**Matthew 7:21**

**"Not everyone who says** to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does** the will of My Father in heaven."

***1. Words without deeds are useless.***

**Luke 9:26-27, 44-45; 24:9-12;**

**John 8:46-47; 14:23-24**

***2. "Not everyone" but some say "Lord, Lord" and then obey. Luke 6:46; 13:25***

***3. "Does" = "obedience" Mark 3:35; 1 John 2:17***



## **Destiny's Decision**

**Matthew 7:22-23**

**"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not** prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' **23** And **then I will declare** to them, 'I never knew you; **depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"**

**1. "Have we not" means they did not ask what pleased God, but assumed authority for their practices.**

**Numbers 15:30-31; Psalm 19:13;  
Hebrews 10:26-27; 2 Peter 2:9-11**

**2. "Lawlessness" = "self-willed" religion!** **I John 2:29; 3:4;**

**Jeremiah 6:19-20; Malachi 1:6-14**

## Destiny's Decision

## Matthew 7:24-25

"Therefore **whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them**, I will liken him to a **wise man** who built his **house on the rock**:  
**25** and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and **it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.**

**1. "Weather-beaten" isn't the same as "defeated!"**

**2. The "wise" are those who obey Jesus Christ.**





## Destiny's Decision

"Therefore <sup>1</sup> **whoever** <sup>2</sup> **hears these** <sup>3</sup> **sayings of Mine, and does them,**"

<sup>1</sup> **Flee the "Unhappy"** "But He said, 'More than that, **blessed** are those who **hear** the word of God **and keep it!**'" **Luke 11:28**

**Like "faith" but not "faith only!"** "But **be doers** of the word, and **not hearers only**, deceiving yourselves." **James 1:22**

**"Look & Listen"** "But he who **looks into** the perfect law of liberty **and continues in it**, and is **not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work**, this one will be blessed in what he does." **James 1:25**

## Destiny's Decision

**2 Adverb of manner:** "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you**; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. **Matthew 28:19-20**

**The body of truth:** "Then **the proconsul believed**, when he saw what had been done, **being astonished at the teaching of the Lord**" **Acts 13:12.**



## Destiny's Decision

**3** “For if anyone is **a hearer of the word and not a doer**, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he **observes** himself, **goes away**, and **immediately forgets** what kind of man he was. But **he who looks** into the perfect law of liberty **and continues in it**, and is not a forgetful hearer **but a doer of the work**, this one will be blessed in what he does” **James 1:23-25**.

**“Do not speak evil of one another, brethren.** He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, **speaks evil of the law and judges the law**. But if you judge the law, **you are not a doer of the law but a judge**” **James 4:11**.

## **Destiny's Decision** Matthew 7:26-27

**26** But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: **27** and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; **and it fell.** And great was its fall."

**1. Everyone who "hears" must make a choice!**

**2. A "fool" decides not to obey Jesus Christ.**





## **Destiny's Decision** Matthew 7:28-29

“And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that **the people were astonished at His teaching, 29** for He taught them as **one having authority, and not as the scribes.**”

**1. Everyone who heard, had the opportunity to be impressed with His “authority.”**



**2. Nothing is said about anyone planning to hear any more.**

**3. Good decisions can be made as soon as good information is gathered.**