

Living Jesus

Extra Teaching Points

Chapter 1

In [Matt. 7:24-27](#), (the section Randy Harris covers in chapter 1 of his book), Jesus is concluding the teaching that He started in [Matt. 7:13](#), so it may be good to talk about how it all fits together.

- In [Matt. 7:13-20](#) Jesus deals with false prophets who try to point people to a wider, easier gate to get through than the one Jesus opened for us.
- [Matt. 7:21-23](#) and [Matt. 7:24-27](#) are judgment scenes.
 - Those who pass the test are those who not only teach what Jesus taught, but actually do the things that Jesus taught.

In [Matt. 7:24-27](#) Jesus is comparing building your life to building a house.

- The house that stands is the person who stands uncondemned in the judgment.
 - The house stood because the builder heard what Jesus said, and did what Jesus said.
- The person who falls in the judgment is the one who heard what Jesus said, but didn't do it.
 - Jesus doesn't address the person who didn't hear His words. (Not sure what to make of that)
- The rain, floods, and wind can be understood as both the final judgment when we stand before the Lord ([Romans 14:12](#); [2Cor. 5:10](#)), and as the storms of life that test our foundation.

The ones who called Jesus "Lord, Lord" in [Matt. 7:21-23](#), called Him Lord, but didn't do what He said ([vs. 21](#)).

Q: They did some pretty good things; so why do you think Jesus called them "evil doers?"

- They did **some of the things** He said; probably **the things they wanted to do**.
- **When we pick and choose what we will obey**, Jesus calls us "**evil doers!**"

Both judgment scenes in [Matt. 7:21-23](#) and [Matt. 7:24-27](#) come after Jesus warns us to enter the narrow gate ([Matt. 7:13-14](#)), and that false prophets will tell us it's ok to choose an easier gate to get through ([Matt. 7:15-20](#)).

- Jesus makes it clear that there will be people directing you to a different gate than the one He is pointing to ([Matt. 7:13-14](#); [Luke 13:24-25](#); [John 10:7-10](#)).
- His gate is harder because it is narrow, which probably means you can't take much with you through that gate.
 - There are lots of things you will probably have to leave behind if you are going to go where Jesus leads.

Q: What is the "fruit" of the false prophets Jesus is talking about in [Matt. 7:16-20](#)?

- Jesus states more clearly what this fruit is in [Matt. 12:33-37](#). Jesus is calling the words a person uses "fruit."
 - If you agree with or allow things that Jesus disagrees with or doesn't allow, that's bad fruit.
 - In other words, false prophets are the ones who tell you Jesus' gate is wider than it really is.
 - False prophets tell you that you can go through Jesus' gate and still hold on to some of the things you don't want to let go of.

Chapter 1 Follow Up Assignment

What kinds of storms has life brought your way?

- How did your house stand up to those storms?
- What does that tell you about your foundation?
- How will your house stand when you face final judgment?

What storm(s) are you most afraid of?

- How well do you think your house would stand if that storm hit you?

How committed are you to building “on the Rock?”

- Answer 1 to 10 (10 being fully committed, and 1 being not committed at all.)

Pray for each other to trust Jesus fully, and build your house on Him alone.