

Sunday, July 3, 2011

I Never Knew You



By Peter Hann

Many people have different views on the passage in [Matthew 7:21-23](#) where Jesus says: *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven"*. In a minute I'll give my personal view.

Some people think Jesus' statement is addressed to believers who are living sloppy carnal Christian lives and they're going to lose their salvation if they don't correct. But you cannot lose your salvation! It's not dependent on how you or I live; it's all about what Jesus did. It's also all about grace otherwise it would be our works saving us and no longer grace ([Rom. 11:6](#)). Christians living carnal lives will face chastisement by the Lord but not condemnation ([1 Cor. 11:32](#)).

Personally what I think Jesus is talking about in the [Matthew 7:21-23](#) passage is people who think they are going to heaven because they have church membership, or they give money to the church, or Grandpa is a Christian, so they think they're saved - or they've been baptized, or given to the poor, and the list goes on and on. These are people that have outward goodness or appear religious but don't have that faith in Jesus in a personal way. To be saved we must stop trusting in things like baptism and church membership and believe in our hearts that we are actually judgment deserving sinners. We must believe in our hearts that Christ died for our sins ([Rom. 5:8](#)), with His burial and resurrection validating who He is and what He did for mankind's sins. When we receive Jesus we truly know Him and He knows us, just like Jesus said: "My sheep hear My voice and I know them" ([Jn. 10:27](#)). It's like knowing Him on a personal level. It's knowing Jesus rather than just knowing about Him.

A few years ago I sent a couple of photographs to Fox 6 Milwaukee's chief meteorologist Vince Condella, because on his weather forecast he shows feature photos that viewers send in to him and then he will display the photos during the broadcast. I gave him two pictures of Wisconsin scenery, like a shot of Lake Michigan and a view of a pond in central Wisconsin. As he was showing my photos it said on the T.V. screen: "Peter from Greenfield". I recorded the broadcast

because I wanted to show it to a friend of mine but not tell her what it was. She was a little reluctant at first of seeing it but as soon as Vince Condella said "Peter from Greenfield" my friend started smiling. It was because she knew me and knew who I was. If it had said "Frank from Delavan" my friend wouldn't have been smiling because she doesn't know who Frank is but she knows who I am and that's why she was smiling. It's the same when we receive Jesus and we come to know Him on a personal level and now He knows us as well. So if you don't know Him, receive Him today. Your eternity depends on it!