

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

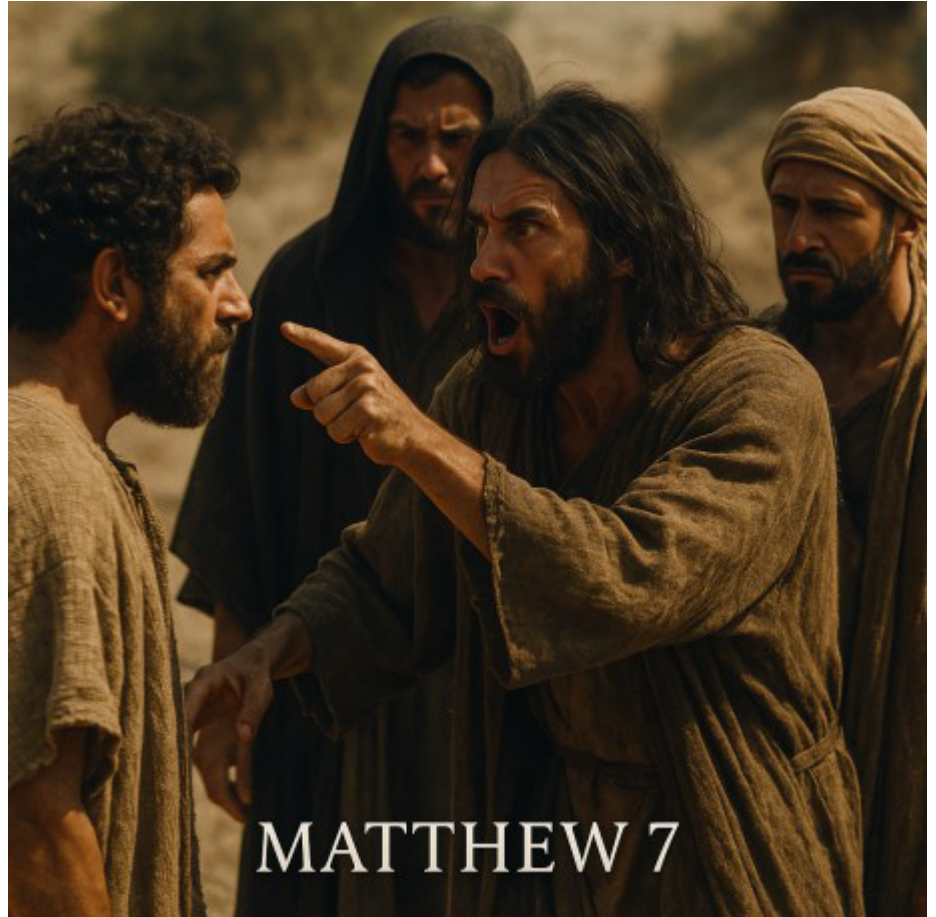
>

[Other](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

Matthew 7 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

Matthew 7

Matthew 7:1-2

Do not judge, so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

† Jesus warns against hypocritical judgment. This does not forbid discernment but condemns a spirit of self-righteousness.

† The Mishnah often emphasized just measures and fair standards (Avot 1:1). Jesus applies that principle to personal relationships.

† To us today, it shows that the measure we use with others will be used on us. Grace must guide our dealings.

Matthew 7:3-5

And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," and look, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye!

† Jesus uses exaggeration to expose hypocrisy. Correcting others while ignoring our own sins is blindness.

† Philo condemned those who judged others while guilty themselves (On the Special Laws 4.174). Jesus brings that principle into vivid picture.

† To us today, it shows that self-examination must come before correction of others.

Matthew 7:6

Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

† The holy and pearls symbolize covenant truth. Dogs and pigs represent those who despise it.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls describe keeping the mysteries of God from the unfaithful (1QS 9.16). Jesus affirms wise discernment.

† To us today, it shows that truth must be guarded and given with wisdom.

Matthew 7:7-8

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

† Persistent prayer is encouraged. God responds to those who seek Him.

† Early church fathers like Origen saw this as the invitation into covenant fellowship with God (On Prayer 24).

† To us today, it assures us that God is accessible to those who seek Him sincerely.

Matthew 7:9-11

Or what person is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf of bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? So if you, despite being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

† Jesus uses common sense. If human fathers give good gifts, how much more does God.

† Josephus highlighted the Jewish emphasis on the kindness of fathers (Against Apion 2.206). Jesus points to God's perfect fatherhood.

† To us today, it assures us God provides exactly what His children need.

Matthew 7:12

In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

† This Golden Rule sums up covenant ethics. It is the heart of God's law.

† Similar principles appear in Jewish tradition, but Jesus makes it the fulfillment of the Law and Prophets (Tobit 4:15; Mishnah Shabbat 31a).

† To us today, it shows that love for others is the essence of the fulfilled law.

Matthew 7:13-14

Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is narrow and the way is constricted that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

† The narrow way is covenant faithfulness, leading to life. The wide path represents Israel's majority rejecting Christ, leading to destruction in AD 70.

† Josephus records how multitudes followed zealotry into destruction, while the faithful remnant was small (Wars 6.420).

† To us today, it shows that truth is not found in majority opinion but in Christ alone.

Matthew 7:15-16

Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they?

† False prophets looked pious but bore corrupt fruit. The destruction of Jerusalem proved them false.

† The Mishnah warns of false teachers who lead Israel astray (Sanhedrin 11:5). Jesus gives the ultimate test: fruit.

† To us today, it shows that character and works reveal the true nature of leaders.

Matthew 7:17-20

So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So you will recognize them by their fruits.

† The image of trees mirrors Israel's leadership. Judgment by fire points to AD 70.

† Tacitus described how corruption destroyed nations from within (Histories 5.13). Jesus applies this to covenant leaders.

† To us today, it shows God's kingdom is identified by fruit, not appearance.

Matthew 7:21-23

Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one 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; leave Me, you who practice lawlessness."

† Confession without obedience is worthless. Jesus requires doing the Father's will.

† Origen stressed that outward acts without obedience are rejected (Homilies on Matthew 23).

† To us today, it proves lip service is not enough. True disciples obey Christ.

Matthew 7:24-27

Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts on them, will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and its collapse was great.

† Jesus ends with a parable of foundations. The wise builder represents faithful disciples, the foolish builder represents those who heard but rejected Him. The storm is covenant judgment.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls use storm imagery for God's judgment (1QH 5.22). Jesus fulfills that warning.

† To us today, it shows that hearing Christ without obedience leads to ruin.

Matthew 7:28-29

When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

† Jesus' authority contrasted with the scribes, who quoted traditions. He spoke as the living Word of God.

† Eusebius noted that the early church marveled at Christ's unique authority as the Son (Ecclesiastical History 1.3).

† To us today, it shows that Christ's authority still commands our obedience.

† **This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

Source Index

- † Mishnah, Avot 1:1; 2:7; Sanhedrin 11:5; Shabbat 31a
- † Philo, On the Special Laws 4.174
- † Dead Sea Scrolls: 1QS 9.16; 1QH 5.22
- † Josephus, Against Apion 2.206; Wars 6.420
- † Tacitus, Histories 5.13
- † Origen, On Prayer 24; Homilies on Matthew 23
- † Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 1.3
- † Tobit 4:15

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.