

GROUP LEADERS NOTES – STUDY 28

- d) The word testifies to what God has said; therefore the importance is on responding to God's word rather than to some miracle.
- e) What Jesus is saying is that those miracles and prophecies that are not from God deceive people and therefore in the same way that the false teachers in the previous verses are answerable for their actions, so will these 'workers of lawlessness'.

Question 6

- d) How terrifying is this verse; to hear those words of Jesus directed at you!
- e) An evangelistic awareness in the church has always been heightened when seen in the light of imminent judgement.
- f) The Christian's expectation of glory also emphasises the unbeliever's final and eternal damnation.
- g) We also have here the importance of a correct understanding and accurate declaration of the gospel. We do not want people thinking they are saved and then to find out the truth 'on that day'!
- h) It will be too late then.

Question 1

- a) "not everyone" – The religious leaders assumed they had an automatic place in the kingdom and therefore so would other Jews who did what they said.
- b) Last time we were considering the warning concerning false prophets. As we go into this next section Jesus is not only referring to false prophets but to any profession of discipleship that is not genuine.
- c) In other words when life and lip are not in harmony with each other.
- d) "do the will" – Jews believed that keeping the law was enough. These people who Jesus is referring to might have an impressive record for religious observance.
- e) They use the right language and go through all the correct observances.
- f) Yet Jesus is introducing some doubt as to whether such people will enter the kingdom of heaven.
- g) "Father" – here is Jesus again identifying Himself with God as a Son. This was blasphemy.

Question 2

- a) All of this teaching is ultimately pointing back to Jesus. He is the key to the kingdom of heaven and the purpose of His coming was to impart his righteousness on sinners by dying for them on the cross.
- b) However, there is a part we have to play, and here we see the characteristic of the true believer; that of obedience.
- c) Jesus assumes that a disciple would want to live a righteous life.

Question 3

- a) Here in this verse we see the theme of judgement.
- b) 'That day' refers to the final day of judgement when each person will have to stand before the Judge of all the world (see also **Matt 24:36** etc.).
- c) There are no exceptions; not then and not now!
- d) It is interesting to note in verse 23 that Jesus presents Himself as the judge on 'that day'. His hearers would have expected God to be the judge. The implication again is that Jesus is God!

Question 4

- a) These people considered themselves to be in control of their destiny. They think they have done enough.
- b) By rejecting Christ's teaching they reject the only way that God's law could be perfectly kept.
- c) The Bible pointed to Jesus as being that means of acceptance and whatever 'works' were presented at the judgement, these inevitably fail to reach the standard.
- d) That doesn't exclude works; but as both Paul and James point out, these works are a result of faith rather than a condition: **Eph 2:8-10; James 2:17-18.**

Question 5

- a) Jesus is not denying that miraculous things were done; even that they were done in the Lord's name or with good intentions.
- b) But in the end signs and wonders cannot save. Whenever we see them in the ministry of Jesus and then in the early church, they are used to confirm the message rather than acting as the message itself.
- c) This is demonstrated in that now we have the revealed word of God in the entirety of scripture, those miraculous signs are no longer so prominent.