

RADICAL THE BOOK

BY DAVID PLATT

CHAP. 2 TOO HUNGRY FOR WORDS

Mt. 7:13-27

Supporting Passages Ps. 119; Jn 3:1-21; Rom 3:21-26; Heb 5:11- 6:3; Jms. 1:22-25

What is meant when someone says “all paths lead to God”? See pg 33-34 in the Book Buddhist temple. David used a metaphor that God is sitting on a mountain and all the world’s religions are climbing that mount trying to get to God. What is wrong with that picture? Who initiates the relationship according to that picture? Who initiates the relationship according to the Gospel? What is the danger of believing that salvation is a matter of climbing some religious mountain of dos and don’ts to get to God? **What common group today believes this? Jehovah’s Witness.** Only 144,000 going to heaven and they were already chosen by 1935. The rest earn life eternal here on earth by going door to door. **Why is it vital to recognize our own inability to get to God?** Tonight we will examine Jesus’ words concerning the only path leading to life; any path not directed by the Gospel of God’s Word leads to destruction.

READ Mt. 7:13-27 These words of Christ conclude the Sermon on the Mount and Jesus’ teaching on how to live as part of the KOG here on earth, not part of a political kingdom, cultural standards or religious routines but by the truth contained in God’s Word.

I. GOD’S WAY LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE, NOT AN EASY LIFE

Vs. 13-14

Show road map from Life Group, draw on it one road wider than other @ end write destruction. Why are there so many people on the broad path? How many people have heard these words before? **The Greek word for narrow doesn’t mean exclusive it means pressed down, hard every other use of this word in scripture carries a sense of tribulation, difficulty and opposition from culture;** basically what most third world believers go through every day. How many people are on the narrow path and where does it lead? SHOW FRANCIS CHAN VIDEO AGAIN. **Do most of the people in our churches today fit into Francis’ church members middle road? why? Where is the Christian Church thriving today? Why?** Remember last week’s “Puddle of Tears”? **READ pp. 38-39 beginning with “the danger of spiritual deception.... total surrender”**

READ Jms 1:22-25 Worthwhile knowledge is a prelude to action; God’s word can only grow in the soil of obedience. In order for a lesson to make a difference in a student’s life, it must enter the heart and mind, affecting his or her life. It is

important to hear God's word, but it is much more important to obey it. We can measure the effectiveness of our Bible study time by the effect it has on our behavior and attitudes. Do we put into action what we have studied?

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— Life Application Concise New Testament Commentary

II. THE WORLD'S WAY IS DECEPTIVE AND LEADS TO DESTRUCTION 15-20

The broad path and worldly values are not restricted to those outside the church. **What words warn of what can happen within the Church? Wolves in sheep's clothing. How can we recognize wolves when they are wearing sheep's clothing? Two trees bad fruit and good fruit does this apply to individuals or can it also apply to churches? Fruit** is a metaphor for both character and conduct **Why would Jesus say that not bearing good fruit results in being cast into the fire? What do you think are the fruit on the trees? READ BOT Pg. 31.** What worldly thinking has crept into church culture? What is the only way to produce good fruit? Be rooted and grounded in truth (Eph. 3:16-19).

While Jesus did not elaborate on the form of their false teaching, it follows from the context that they would teach a way of salvation that did not include a narrow gate and a hard road .. Jesus' followers would be able to **detect** false prophets **by the way they act.**

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III. GOD'S WILL ENABLES A RELATIONSHIP TO CHRIST, NOT MAN'S ABILITY

Vs. 21-23

Jesus is here speaking to people w/in the church **community do these people believe they are saved?** Yes upon what grounds do they believe that? Good works & religion. What is the difference between the two people claiming the name of the Lord? One relationship the other good works. On page 30 David shares a story about a professor taking his class to a cemetery. How does the thought that only God's will is able to give spiritual life affect the way you understand a relationship with God? Knowing all the

right things to say and do can never save a soul. The only way to eternal life is through a faith relationship with Christ that changes our very nature. We are a new creation in Christ, behold old things have passed away behold all things have become new.

IV. GOD'S WORD IS THE SOUL FOUNDATION FOR RADICAL LIVING Vs. 24-27

What 2 foundations are described? What do the two homes have in common? Heard God's word. The storms of life came what is the difference between the wise man and the foolish man? Obedience to the word.

SUMMARIZE pp 25-26 farmers who under intense persecution still leaving their fields for one thing what was it? If all the comforts of cushioned chairs, heating and AC were removed would the study of God's word bring you back to Hillcrest?

There are two radically different ways to live in this world and agreeing with Francis Chan and the teachings of our Lord there is no middle road

SHOW VIDEO "The Word Says Vs. What we Say" What are some beliefs we have that may be different than what the Bible actually says? Who does the great commission apply to? Christ died for me not all people groups. How is it possible to get something as important as Bible teaching so wrong?

READ Lk. 4:1-4 How did Jesus deal with Satan's temptations? He quoted scripture **READ 4:5-8** How did Satan alter His strategy after Jesus' first response? He misquoted and misapplied scripture. He also moved from a personal level to a relational one, tempting Christ with influence over other people instead just His personal comfort. How did Satan get Adam and Eve to sin? Misquoted what God said, then appealed to pride, relational over others, you will be as gods. See Gen. 3:1-5

READ 4:9-13 Note that in each of the temptations, personal, social or spiritual Jesus refutes lies with the truth of God's word. How are variations of these same three temptations/lies present in our culture and churches today? Seeking own comfort and satisfaction over God's Glory, compromising God's will for easier methods, waiting for God to prove himself to us, twisting God's word to fit our own agenda. What about exaggerating our own testimonies to "wow" people into believing in Jesus?