

**“I NEVER KNEW YOU” (MATTHEW 7:21-23)**  
**LESSON BY JOSHUA ORTIZ**

**I. Verse 21:** *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”*

A. First, this teaches that not everyone will go to heaven.

1. This verse destroys the teaching that says, “All will be saved!”
2. Did you know that this truth hurts God?
  - a) 2 Peter 3:9
  - b) 1 Timothy 2:3-4

B. Second, by the wording we can see that there IS a group going to heaven.

C. Third, God’s will must be obeyed.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
  
2. Jesus became an example for us (John 8:29).

**II. Verse 22:** *“Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’”*

A. In the group of the condemned, we have a specific group who will have been very religious.

B. Notice they say three times...*“in Your name.”*

C. Jesus is Lord

1. There is only one Lord (Ephesians 4:5)
2. God the Father gave Jesus all authority (Matthew 28:18)

D. Jesus said in Luke 6:46: *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? “*

1. It is not enough to verbally recognize Jesus as Master.
2. You must obey what He says.

E. What other lords do people choose?

1. Religious Leaders

2. Self

F. The Father has given Jesus the authority to Judge the world on the Last Day.

**III. Verse 23: “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’ “**

A. Jesus will have the last word.

B. The word “Me” translates the Greek word ἐμοῦ.

1. Now the simpler version of that word is μοῦ.

2. But Jesus adds the letter epsilon to the beginning to emphasize the word.

C. For those who never wanted to TRULY know Jesus, Jesus will say to them, “I never knew you.”

D. Have you ever tried to correct someone of their faults?

1. Did that person tell you, “Stop judging me! You shouldn’t judge others!”?

2. However, we are helping people get ready to meet the Judge who is coming.

E. What makes Jesus qualified to be the Judge?

1. He created of all things.

2. He was a sinless man.

3. He resurrected from the dead.

4. God highly exalted Him.

**IV. WHAT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY BASED ON THIS PASSAGE?**

A. First, we need to prepare for Jesus.

B. Second, we need to help others prepare for Jesus.