

**Stouffville High School District Board**

**Evening Classes**

will commence in the High School Rooms on  
**OCTOBER 28th at 8.00 o'clock**

THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WILL BE OFFERED

- Art** — Instructor, Mr. Arnold Hodgkins — Fee, 8 Dollars.
- Shopwork** — Instructor, Mr. Donald Bacon — Fee, 6 Dollars.
- Sewing** — Instructress, Mrs. Mildred O'Neill — Fee, 6 Dollars
- English** — Instructors, Mr. William Sherwood, B.A. Mr. Lloyd Oliver, B.A. — Fee, 3 Dollars.

Fees cover 16 sessions of 2 hours each and can be paid in two payments. Enrolment will be on Tuesday, October 21st, at 8 o'clock. Those who cannot arrange for this time, please phone the instructor of the group you are interested in for details.

Mr. Geo. A. Pearce, B.A. — Principal  
A. E. Bray, Sec.-Treas. D. R. Chadwick, Chairman

The first law of nature is self-preservation, and it seems the old sot believes the second law is self-pickling.

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W. YAKE

**THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**JESUS' TEST OF FAITH**

Golden Text.—Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.—Matt. 7:21

**The Lesson as a Whole**

**Approach to the Lesson**  
After this week's lesson, we shall be ready for the second division of Matthew's Gospel, which we have entitled "The Procedures of the King." This division runs from chapter 4:18 to 16:21, and may be subdivided as follows:

The King begins His ministry (chap. 4:18-25)  
The King demonstrates His authority (chap. 8:1 to 9:35)  
The King issues commendations and condemnations (chap. 11:2-30)  
The King engages in conflict (chap. 12:1-50)  
The King experiences gathering storm (chap. 13:54 to 16:12)  
The King discovers a glimmer of light (chap. 16:13-21)

You will notice that there are three blanks in this outline. These are filled by three of the bodies of teaching to which we referred in last week's approach.

The Principles of the Kingdom (chap. 5:1 to 7:29)  
The Promotion of the Kingdom (chap. 9:36 to 11:1)  
The Progress of the Kingdom (chap. 13:1-53)

I should like to offer two books for any who desire to pursue further the study of the Sermon on the Mount. Robert Govett, for many years the greatly used pastor of Surrey Chapel in Norwich, England, gave us a work entitled, "The Sermon on the Mount Expounded." The other is an English translation of a German work, "Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount," by F.A.G. Tholuck.

Let it be clearly kept in mind that "living up to the Sermon on the Mount" is not the way of salvation, but here we have a pattern of living for all who follow Christ. He Himself being the peerless example of its fulfillment. Only as "it is no longer I that live, but Christ (that) liveth in me," is it possible for such standards to be realized in me.

**Verse by Verse**

Matt. 7:12. — "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." This is simply translating into action the second great Commandment "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Verse 15.—"False prophets . . . sheep's clothing . . . ravens wolves." What makes them false prophets? Not a false message necessarily. It is that they put on a fair exterior which hides inward corruption. They will use the truth of the Gospel as a means of securing their own ends.

Verse 16.—"Ye shall know them by their fruits . . . grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?" Our Lord is not saying that you can judge the man's teaching by what it produces but that you can judge the man by the ultimate manifestation of his life. He appeals for illustration to nature. No camouflaging of thorns

and thistles will produce grapes and figs.

Verse 17.—"Every good tree . . . good fruit . . . corrupt tree . . . evil fruit." A tree produces according to its inward condition. A healthy condition will show in good fruit, and an unhealthy condition will show in unsound fruit.

Verse 18.—"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit." Verse 18 is the negative way of stating the positive fact of verse 17. If a tree brings forth evil fruit, it is proof that the tree is unsound, whatever its appearance. The companion statement is equally true.

Verse 19.—"Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." A fruitgrower has no room in his orchard for trees that make a fair show but fail to produce. Compare Luke 13:6-9.

Verse 20.—"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Having enforced His teaching by the illustration, repeated from every angle, our Lord reaffirms the statement of verse 16, but this time as a demonstrated proposition. Character, not profession, is the test of the prophet.

Verse 21.—"Not every one that saith . . . but he that doeth." This does not begin a new paragraph, but is an application of all that has been said under the figure of fruit. Profession is of no avail without obedience. The Kingdom of Heaven is not open to those who can repeat a formula, but to those whose renewed hearts express themselves in glad obedience.

Verse 22.—"Have we not prophesied . . . cast out devils . . . in thy name do many wonderful works?" A hypocrite may have a measure of success in Christian service, enough to make men wonder, but it will not bear the light of "that day." Many are being deceived by their own success into believing that they are right with God.

Verse 23.—"I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." He knew all about them, but had never received them into the circle of His associates and friends. The professed good works will then be numbered among the deeds of iniquity.

Verse 24.—"Therefore whosoever heareth . . . and doeth . . . a wise man, which built his house upon a rock." This is still not a new theme, but a final application of the same truth. Notice how Jesus connects "the will of my Father" (v. 21) with "these sayings of mine." What a claim!

Verse 25.—"It fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." Both in this life and in "that day" the structure of life of every man will be tested. The foundation of the teaching of the Lord is a rock foundation which will prove sound in the day of testing.

Verse 26.—"Hearth and doeth them not . . . a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand." Not admiration of Christ's teaching, but obedience, not enlightenment, but application is required. Anything else leaves us without foundation. Herod heard John the Baptist, but did not do according to his God-given teaching, and was unable to stand in the day of testing.

Verse 27.—" . . . beat upon that house; and it fell." Both structures are alike tested, but the foundation makes all the difference. Let us not be deceived in such a vital matter.

**The Heart of the Lesson**

The greatest menace to the church is not the man who propounds false doctrines, serious as that offense is, but the man who makes a fair profession of Christian truth while his life is totally incompatible, and who makes pretense of sacrificing himself to the work of the ministry (sheep's clothing) while actually bent on promoting his own interests even at the expense of others (ravens wolves). Sooner or later a man's true character will appear, and those who undertake to speak forth the truth of God must manifest the fruit of the Gospel or be branded "false prophets." If there is too great leniency in regard to doctrine in some quarters, others of us who are rigidly exact in doctrine have been far too lenient in the matter of character, both for ourselves and for those who minister to us. God's prophets are referred to as "holy men of God" (2 Pet. 1:21). His prophets today should be nothing less than that.

One of the dreadful spectacles of "that day" will be the host of "Christian workers" being turned out from the presence of the Lord as "workers of iniquity." Their lives of disobedience to the will of God will stand as judge against them that they had professed Christ as Lord only with their lips, and not in their hearts, and pleading their own works will be evidence that, despite their orthodoxy, their faith was really in what they did for Christ rather than in what He did for them. What a tragedy for those who counted themselves in the number of Christ's servants to hear Him say, "I never knew you."

It is of the utmost importance, then, that we look to our foundations. It is one thing to hear the sayings of Christ, and quite another thing to lay them as the basis of our conduct, to build our character on them and support our very lives by them. Being able to quote the Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12) is one thing; being convicted of our sin by it until we fly to God's mercy and have our heart renewed by His grace until "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost"—that is something quite different. Let us not mistake knowledge for salvation, but test ourselves by obedience. These are some of the most solemn and searching passages in all the Bible.

"Man has been eating fish 7,000 years." This explodes the theory that fish constitutes brain food.

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