

Audio Sermon Message #0 Intro to Audio Teaching Sermon Series

[A Intro – Pastor Jefferson 0:00 thru 1:42]

Hello friends, I’m **pastor Jefferson**, lead pastor of **DWJD Ministries**. I’d like to welcome you to the first installment of a series which I’ve been thinking about putting together for a long time. Our mission here is as basic as it can be: **“Do What Jesus Did.”** Our work is based on helping people establish an intimate and lasting relationship with **Him**. And as you will soon learn, this can only be done via in-depth study of God’s word. The reason is very simple: While a topical message of the Gospel is indeed getting put out every day, **VERY FEW** churches and organizations are properly doing the job which God Himself commanded of them to do. What I have found is that instead of making and training disciples, the modern church is in fact no better than the *Sadducees* and *Pharisees* from the days back when Jesus walked the earth. The messages being preached from today’s pulpits are chock full of what I refer to as *“Christian mythology.”* The leadership of the churches today have let in all manner of sinful behavior which is being deemed as acceptable and normal under an umbrella of inclusion. Sin never takes a holiday and so these practices are simply unacceptable in the eyes of God. And as I am going to be discussing today, ignorance of the Bible will not be a valid excuse when we each stand before a righteous and holy God.

[B Not Everyone who Calls Me Lord, Lord 1:42 thru 3:22]

I think perhaps the saddest words to be found in Scripture can be seen in **Matthew** chapter **7**. If you have your Bible handy, please open it up and follow along. Beginning in verse **21** we see that it is Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our salvation, who is speaking here. He says, ¹ *“Not everyone who affirms to Me,* ² *“Lord, Lord,”* ³ *will enter into the kingdom* ⁴ *of the heavens.”* The Greek word for **affirm** used here is **LEG-on** and means **‘to show or express a strong belief in or a dedication to something or someone.’** So, Jesus is not speaking about those who casually invoke the name of the LORD. No! He’s talking about people displaying serious dedication. The Greek word we see for **LORD** is **KYE-ree** and is used for **‘someone who possesses authority, control or power.’** Jesus then adds in a major qualifier, ¹ *“But only the one executing the will* ² *of My Father,* ³ *who is in the*

heavens.” So, what is God’s will that Jesus is talking about here? The Greek word we see in the verse for **will** is **THEH-le-mah** and it means **‘desires or wishes.’** But the little addition of **mah** on the end of the word adds additional clarity. It places the focus on the result being hoped for with the particular desire. So that begs the next question: “What is God hoping or desiring for us to do?”

[**C** What is God’s Desire for all Men? 3:22 thru 4:52]

For the answer to that question, now open up your Bible to **1 Timothy 2:4**. It reads, ¹ “God desires that all men be saved, ² namely through coming to the knowledge ³ of the Truth.” So, what does it mean to be saved? The word we find for **saved** is **SOE-theh-nie**. The proper definition reflects **‘a delivery from out of a place of danger and into one of safety.’** The word is principally used of God rescuing believers from the penalty and power of sin and brought into His provision. God’s **provision** is **‘His establishment,’** which we know as heaven. Notice how we achieve God’s will: *“namely through coming to the knowledge of the Truth.”* The word we see for **coming** is **EL-theh-ein** and it means **‘to move from one place to another.’** So, we are to move from a place of ignorance of the Truth if you will, to a destination where we possess a sufficient knowledge level of the Truth so as to satisfy God Almighty. There are many places in Scripture where this move is described as a journey, and not as a short trip, nor an instant in time. Isaiah described it as a journey to holiness. ¹ And we know from many places in Scripture, where Jesus is frequently called, **“The Truth.”**

[**D** Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life 4:52 thru 6:08]

So, we see that God’s desire is that all men are to be saved to eternal life. We also see that there is a path to be followed, known as a way to holiness, and that that path leads through the Truth, which the Bible says is Jesus Christ. Can you now understand why in **John 14:6**, that Jesus described Himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life? ² Okay, now that we have that established, let’s return back to **Matthew** chapter **7**. Look now in verse **22**. It’s still Jesus speaking and He says, ¹ “On Judgment Day, ² many will say to me, ³

¹ **Isaiah 35:8** *And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;*

² **John 14:6** *Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life.”*

LORD! LORD! ⁴ *Did we not prophesy* ⁵ *in your name?"* The word we find here for **prophesy** is *ep-pro-fet-CHEW-sah-men*. This word is only used this one time in the whole of Scripture and it *'refers to the act of delivering a message from God, often involving the foretelling of future events or declaring God's will.'* Essentially, anytime a person is speaking on behalf of God, they are preaching or prophesying.

[**E** Didn't We Preach in your name? 6:08 thru 7:07]

So, Jesus is telling us that there are going to be folks at the Great Judgment Day who will be pleading with Him, by asking, *"Didn't we preach the Word of God in your name?"* The word we find for **name** is *oh-NO-mat-tee* and means *'name, reputation, character, or fame.'* It's used to signify the power and authority associated with a name, like with the phrase we commonly use, *"in the name of Jesus."* The Bible is telling us that standing before Jesus will be folks who preached the Word of God in His name, yet who are not headed to heaven. They are pleading with Him by telling of what they have done. Notice they were not preaching some other name or that of a false Messiah. They were preaching in His name. To which I can hear Jesus' reply, *"Oh, yeah. I saw and heard you preaching in My name, sure did."*

[**F** Casting Out Demons in Jesus Name 7:07 thru 8:41]

Look at the next part of **verse 22**. There are going to be others present who will be there making the claim, ⁶ *"And did we not cast out demons* ⁷ *in your name?"* The exact same word for **name** is used here as it was earlier in the verse. Now, I am one who can tell you that properly preparing and preaching a good sermon at times can be quite difficult. It requires a lot of work. And as I have never cast out any demons, I would think the level of spiritual power required to effectively render a sermon is nothing, when compared against that needed for conducting an exorcism. As you will see, I think Jesus is intentionally mentioning the claims of these lost persons in this verse in order. He is identifying them from low to high. Take note that here, these people who were casting demons out of possessed people were clearly working *against* Satan and his demonic realm. The Pharisees accused Jesus of doing the same thing by claiming that His power came from Beelzebub, Satan, the ruler of the demons. Jesus corrected them by saying,

¹ “Now if Satan is divided against himself, ² how can his kingdom then endure?” ³ The same principle applies here. Only the power of God can cast out demons. So, I can hear Jesus answering them, “Yes, I saw you cast out demons, many times.”

[**G** Miracles in Jesus Name 8:41 thru 10:02]

And now go back to **verse 22** once more for the final argument that’s being made on Judgment Day. Some will say to Jesus, ⁸ “And did we not perform many miracles ⁹ in your name?” The word here for **miracles** is **DIE-na-mice**. It kind of sounds like dynamite, right? Well, the word comes from the Greek **DOO-nam-mis** and denotes power, strength or ability. It is defined as **‘inherent power, the power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature.’** While we all possess some level of power, none of us can perform miracles on our own. This level of power or ability comes only from God Almighty. And God’s power is as high as it gets. I want you to pay close attention to the fact that these folks had the ability to utilize the *inherent power of Jesus*, as the many miracles they performed were once again done in Jesus’ name. To which Jesus is going to reply, “Yes, I did indeed see the many miracles you were able to perform.” These people who will be standing before Jesus are not lying, they did indeed do what they are saying. Keep that fact in the forefront of your mind as we continue.

[**H** Jesus Will Publicly Agree 10:02 thru 11:13]

For the answer Jesus will give these people standing before Him on Judgment Day, we now move on to **verse 23**. Jesus begins by stating, ¹ “And then I will declare to them.” The word we see here for **declare** is **ho-mo-low-GEH-so** means **‘to publicly confess, to acknowledge or to agree.’** The word carries with it the idea of speech leading to a conclusion. It brings along the notion of giving tactic acknowledgement to something both openly and publicly. Jesus is therefore agreeing with their assessment that the things they said to him, attempting to justify their faith by their demonstrated actions was in fact true. In one word Jesus is verbally confessing their accomplishments, that their preaching, casting out of demons and performing miracles were genuine acts. That’s why I added in my little thoughts to the discussion about what Jesus might reply to each person. Now

⁵ See the passage in **Luke 11:14-23**

we've reached the part where Jesus drops the bomb.

[I "I Never Knew You" 11:13 thru 12:28]

The next phrase in the verse will be incredibly painful for anyone of their stature to hear. Jesus will say, ² *"I never knew you."* The word Christ uses for **never** is *ooh-DEP-poe-tay* and it means *'not ever, not even, as in an absolute negation.'* In the New Testament the word is used to emphasize the impossibility or non-occurrence of an event or action. The term underscores the certainty that something has not happened and nor will it ever happen. So, these people are not folks who had at some point gained salvation and then lost it. No! They never had it, because they never knew Jesus. The word we find for **knew** is *EGG-non*. This word comes from the Greek *ghin-NOCE-ko* which means *'to know well, to come to know personally or to fully recognize.'* *EGG-non* is the familiar form of the word which *'implies having an intimate level of knowledge gained through the experience of having a close personal relationship.'* These people Jesus is talking to on Judgment day never achieved a deep and personal relationship with Him.

[J Depart From Me You Lawlessness 12:28 thru 13:35]

The next words Jesus speaks in **verse 23** will be the most agonizing any person could possibly ever hear. He says, ³ *"Depart from Me* ⁴ *those working lawlessness."* And we know that the only destination available for those being judged on **Judgement Day** will be into the **Lake of Fire** for the whole of eternity. I know what some of you are thinking. *"Hey, wait a minute. These people were working in the kingdom of God and doing good things. They preached the word, they cast out demons and even performed many miracles, all in the name of Jesus. How can any of that be lawlessness?"* The word we see for **working** is *er-GAN-zoe-man-noi* and it means *'to engage in labor, to perform or to accomplish.'* Here it is used to describe *spiritual* activities. And the word we find for **lawlessness** is *an-no-ME-an*, and it means *'lawlessness, iniquity, or disobedience.'* So, what were they not doing? How were they being disobedient?

[K What is Lawlessness 13:35 thru 14:57]

First off, since they themselves were never saved, they didn't truly know Jesus. While they knew of Jesus and could use His name to do things, they weren't qualified to teach

others. So, in the final analysis they were failing to pass along the necessary information needed for their flock to establish a personal relationship with Jesus. In future sermons you will see that as far as the Bible is concerned those who are not saved are themselves unqualified to make disciples. In the same way a person cannot learn Algebra from someone who hasn't ever studied math, an unsaved person cannot make disciples. That is like the blind leading the blind. Jesus spoke of the *yeast* of the Pharisees and Sadducees. He used the word **yeast** defined to mean **'something that ferments subversive activity.'** The Pharisees knew the details of the Old Testament right down to the fine print; but they didn't know Jesus. The *yeast* of their teachings is equivalent to the Christian mythology being preached from the modern pulpits of today. Their teaching was thus flawed. And like today, Jesus equated their teaching to lawlessness and iniquity. Their work was not leading to the saving of lost souls.

[**L** **Escape Like Fleeing a Phobia** **14:57 thru 16:14**]

The apostle Paul, perhaps the greatest Biblical writer and teacher ever, gave us advice regarding the yeast of the Pharisees. He told us that if we suspect our efforts towards learning about God are in anyway flawed or somehow being tainted, we are to bolt from that situation in the same manner as one would flee a phobia! In case you didn't know, a **phobia** is **'an exaggerated and usually inexplicable, yet completely illogical fear of a particular object or situation.'** If you've ever experienced such feelings, you know well of what Paul is saying. I know that most of you sincerely believe that the path you are taking leads to salvation. I too believed that the spiritual road I was walking led to Christ. But, then He convicted me and began showing me the yeast of the Pharisees. God opened up my eyes wide to the failures of modern-day religion. Which is centered on discussing the person of Jesus, but they are largely failing to teach how to properly build and foster a deep, intimate and personal relationship with God's only Son.

[**M** **A Saving Knowledge of Christ** **16:14 thru 17:27**]

That's the prime reason I have begun making these short teaching sermons. To help each and every one of you out there to arrive at a saving knowledge of Jesus. Listen my friends in Christ, Jesus is not asking you to change anything in your current Christian walk.

He only wants you to begin digging in deep into God’s Word, just the way I have done today. Do you realize in the space of this short sermon that we’ve already discussed twelve words from out of original Greek and their specific meanings? Plus, we’ve covered seventeen definitions coming right out of the dictionary. And we haven’t even really started. We’ve not yet peeled the shrink wrap off of the Bible! Let me give you a suggestion as to how this effort on your part might proceed. As you listen to each sermon, open up your Bible and follow along. See the words with your own eyes. In future lessons, I will be giving you lots of instruction on how to look up the Greek and Hebrew words by yourself. And I will be taking a measured approach to increasing your knowledge of God. I am going to do this by dissecting familiar verses one at a time.

[**N** Fix Our Eyes Upon Jesus 17:27 thru 19:05]

Here’s how this process is very different than what you’ve been exposed to before. You are going to begin seeing Jesus, God, and His Word all in a completely different light. The ink recorded on the pages of Scripture will begin to come alive within your mind with the help of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who will bring understanding of what the miraculous word of God is actually saying to us. Next, you will begin seeing the true magnificence of God Almighty through the study of Him and His Son. And as you continue to grow spiritually, you will begin to meet with Jesus as He is our teacher. That’s why the Bible in **Hebrews 12:2** tells us to ¹ “Fix your eyes upon the founder ² and perfecter of our faith, ³ Jesus.” I just read the verse word-for-word from out of the *Greek*. There is only one word present for the phrase **fix our eyes** and it is *af-fro-RON-tes*. It means **‘to look away from all else and to focus on one single object.’** It then defines that object as being the founder and perfecter of our faith. The word we see for **founder** is *arch-eh-GONE* and means **‘originator, pioneer or prince.’** Jesus is thus the sole princely originator of our faith. It next says He is the **perfecter** of our faith. The word used here is *tel-eh-oi-TEN* and means **‘completer, finisher, or the one to fully develop.’**

[**O** To Be Fully Persuaded 19:05 thru 20:41]

I want to point out that each of these three words are only used one time in the whole of Scripture, and it’s right here is this verse. The word we find for **faith** is *PIS-tay-os* and

means '**belief, trust, confidence, or fidelity.**' In this specific instance it means '**to be fully persuaded.**' It's used to describe the sole object of this verse: and it of course is Jesus, Himself. We are to lock our mind's eye upon Jesus and heed His teachings. And as the originator of our faith, were we to stick with His teaching, He is also the One who will bring our discipleship process to the point of maturity. The process of achieving this faith is simple in concept, but difficult and even arduous at times in practice. We are to allow Jesus to teach us all that He wants to tell us, and in turn, He guarantees that we will come to a saving knowledge of Him. Faith is the promise of an end result, a warranty from God if you will. **PIS-tay-os** is always a gift from God and is one which can never be something produced by people. Once again, when we establish a deep and intimate relationship with Him, Christ guarantees our salvation. This is why those folks standing before Him at the Great Judgment will be unable to successfully argue that they know Jesus. It's because they don't.

[**Z** Closing Comments **20:41 thru 22:15**]

So, the purpose of this intro to this series now begs the questions: "*Do you know Jesus? Have you been fully persuaded by Him? Do you hold absolutely zero doubt about where you are going to spend eternity?*" If not, then I would like to invite you on behalf of Jesus Christ, our LORD and Savior, to begin listening to this series of audio sermons. I promise that God will open your eyes, but only if you allow Him to do so. This program is completely non-denominational. Our only textbooks are the Holy Bible and a dictionary. So, don't stop what you've been doing with your church or cathedral or synagogue or temple. All you have to do to receive these sermons is send an email to: info@DWJDMinistries.com and ask to be included in the Audio Sermon Series. That's it! We will then begin sending you emails with the next audio sermon attached as an MP-3 file. This way you can download it to listen at a place and time of your convenience. On your computer, phone, tablet, in your car... anywhere you're able to listen to a song. But I promise I won't ever sing. That's it for now... **So, until next time, this has been Pastor Jefferson, speaking in God's Holy name and for His glory alone. Amen.**