

**WHEN
PROFANITY
SURPASSES
PIETY**



GRACIOUS JESUS

(MATTHEW'S PERSPECTIVE WITH GOSPEL PARALLELS)

1. Presenting the King (Matt 1-4)
2. True Blessedness (Matt 5:1-12)
3. Kingdom Lifestyle – Part 1 (Matt 5:13-48)
4. Kingdom Lifestyle – Part 2 (Matt 6)
5. Kingdom Lifestyle – Part 3 (Matt 7)
6. Master Strokes (Matt 8)
7. The King Calls (Matt 9)
8. The King Commissions (Matt 10)
9. *Signs, Sinners and the Saviour (Matt 11)*
10. Power Games and Names (Matt 12)
11. Hidden Wisdom (Matt 13:1-43)
12. Hidden Treasures (Matt 13:44-48)
13. The Gall and the Glory (Matt 15-17:9)
14. Winning Others Over (Matt 17:10-18:35)
15. Kingdom Values, Kingdom Wealth (Matt 20)
16. The King Enters Jerusalem (Matt 21)
17. The Chosen Few (Matt 22)
18. The King's Glorious Coming (Matt 24:1-44)
19. The Final Countdown (Matt 24:45 – 25:46)
20. The King's last days (Matt 26)
21. Desertion (Matt 26:36-75)
22. God's Lamb Sacrificed (Matt 27: 1-50)
23. The King Conquers (Matt 27:51-28)

GRACIOUS JESUS

9. SIGNS, SINNERS AND THE SAVIOUR

1. Signs of the Messiah
2. True Greatness
3. Children of Wisdom
4. *When profanity surpasses piety*
5. Wisdom of Children
6. Soul Rest



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Passage/s: Matthew 11:20-24; 10:12-15

Replay

Riches:

- Chosen people of God
- Custodians of God's law
- Christ in person

Response:

Complacence - Did not repent..

- In spite of messiah
- miracles
- Messages correlating them with OT prophecy

Result:

- Condemnation – of the worst level.
- Levels of judgement



WHEN PROFANITY SURPASSES PIETY

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 11:20 Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. 21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. 24 But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.”

WHEN PROFANITY SURPASSES PIETY

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 10:12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting. 13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. 14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet. 15 Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

OBJECTIVES

To understand that:

- **Good works in themselves are not adequate for righteousness**
- **Good works could, in fact be a deterrant to righteousness**
- **It is the faith and heart that God is more concerned about**

CONTEXT

The center of Jesus' Galilean ministry was an area now called the "evangelical triangle." At the points of this triangle were the towns of Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum. [1]



CHORAZIN

“Chorazin is located about 2.5 miles north of the Sea of Galilee, situated on the basalt hills above Capernaum. On the hill are the ruins of 1st century AD Chorazin, which has never been excavated.

Several excavations have taken place on the southern end of the site. In 1926, Na'im Makhouly and Jacob Ory worked and found the "Seat of Moses", carved from a basalt block. This is where the reader of the Torah sat. Jesus mentions this type of seat in Matthew 23:1-3” [1]



BETHSAIDA

The location of Bethsaida has been uncertain for centuries and has been a recent topic of academic debate.

Excavators argue the topography has changed:

- 1. Earthquake and tectonic activity have altered the topography.**
- 2. The Jordan River has changed course over time.**
- 3. Deposits from the Jordan have increased the size of the delta.**

Jesus, notably heals the blind man and moves to Bethsaida after feeding 5000 (Mark 8:22-25, 45-51) [1]

CAPERNAUM

Capernaum served as Jesus' home in the Galilee, although he did not own his own property (Mt 4:13-14; 8:20). Aerial View of St. Peter's House (top left) and the synagogue (bottom right). The Jews at Nazareth had even heard of Jesus' miracles at Capernaum, but refused to believe in him (Lk 4:23-30). Capernaum also refused to repent and accept Jesus' claims to the office of Messiah, The New Testament tells us that Jesus performed many of his miracles in the "evangelical triangle." The Gospel of Mark records the healing of the paralytic!" (Mk 2:1-12)

[1]



RICHES

Jews were rich. They represented and experienced:

- **Chosen people of God**
- **Custodians of God's law**
- **Christ in person**



RESPONSE

**Complacence -
Did not repent.. in
spite of:**

- **messiah**
- **miracles**
- **messages
correlating
them with OT
prophecy**



IN SPITE OF MIRACLES

**21 “Woe to you,
Chorazin! Woe to you,
Bethsaida! For if the
miracles that were
performed in you had
been performed in Tyre
and Sidon, they would
have repented long
ago in sackcloth and
ashes. 22 But I tell you,
it will be more bearable
for Tyre and Sidon on
the day of judgment
than for you.**



IN SPITE OF MESSAGE

23 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day.



IN SPITE OF MESSIAH

20 Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent.



RETAINING AND REMOVING PEACE

10 no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep. 11 Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. 12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting. 13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. 14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet. 15 Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.10

RESULT: CONDEMNATION – OF THE WORST LEVEL.

**24 But I tell you
that it will be
more bearable for
Sodom on the day
of judgment than
for you.”¹¹**



**Brazen
profanity
beats
shallow piety
hands down.**



WHEN PROFANITY SURPASSES PIETY

**For those to whom God has
unravalled His mystery**

**Irrespective of the extent of
superficial piety**

**The worst sin is
insubordination to Christ's
deity**



RECAP

Matthew 11:20-24; 10.12-15

Replay

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WHEN PROFANITY SURPASSES PIETY DISCUSSION

Matthew 11:20-24; 10.12-15

- 1. If God considers the externally pious worse than the worst sinners (in our terms), how does that change our outlook?**
- 2. In what ways do we slip into piety instead of purity?**
- 3. What is true godliness and goodness in the light of these passages? How can we emulate that in our lives?**

REFERENCES

1. <http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2007/08/Three-Woes!.aspx#Article>