

How You Can Be Righteous

Bob Young

Text: Matthew 7:24-27

Introduction

The Sermon on the Mount is concerned about the importance and blessing of righteousness. One can easily see righteousness as a theme or thread that runs through this initial teaching of Jesus. The Sermon on the Mount gives us the context and background for our sermon today. The last part of the Sermon on the Mount is the climax of all that has gone before.

Here is a possible outline of the previous parts of the sermon.

- Beatitudes, 5:1-16
- The right teaching, 5:17-48
- Getting the actions right, 6:1-18
- The right focus, 6:19-34

The Golden Rule summarizes the essence of Jesus' teaching about righteousness.

- The Golden Rule deals with judging others
- The Golden Rule applies when we are self-righteous in our attitudes
- The Golden Rule helps establish appropriate values
- The Golden Rule helps establish priorities
- The Golden Rule makes us generous

Life is a series of choices that have consequences.

- Jesus urges us to consider the outcome as we make choices
- Jesus emphasizes the importance of actions consistent with the will of God.
- Jesus tells a parable that illustrates choices and consequences.

Understanding our choices

- Two ways
- Two fruits
- Two options
- Two builders
- Two results