

## Study Notes and Questions for Matthew Chapter Seven

- How does 7:3–5 help define the kind of “judging” Jesus was talking about in 7:1–2?
- What is the difference between judging unfairly and critical thinking?
- If the nature of evangelism is to present the gospel to unbelievers, how can believers avoid giving “dogs” what is sacred or throwing their “pearls” to “pigs”? How does one discern “dogs” and “pigs” from those who may be open to the gospel?
- What promises do you find in 7:7-11?
- What are the conditions related to those promises?
- How would the world change if everyone obeyed 7:12?
- Identify the “narrow gate” in 7:13 and also the “wide gate.”
- What does this passage teach about the way of salvation?
- **Study note:** Our society tends to frown on ideas or doctrines that seem “narrow” or “exclusive.” Yet the Bible is clear that Jesus is the only way to heaven. See the following texts: John 14:6; Acts 4:8–12; Romans 10:5–13; 1 Corinthians 15:13–18; 1 Timothy 2:5.
- Concerning identifying false prophets, what did Jesus mean by “fruit”?
- What does it say about these false prophets when Jesus says of them, “you workers of lawlessness.”?
- How does 7:24–27 summarize Jesus’ teaching on the Sermon on the Mount?
- **Study note:** The Bible places much emphasis on the idea of “fruit” in a believer’s life. Note the following passages: Matthew 12:33; John 15:1–16; Romans 7:4; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 5:9; Philippians 1:11; Colossians 1:10; James 3:17.
- According to 7:28–29, how did the crowds react to Jesus’ teaching and what do His words say about Him as a person?