

CouplesInBloom.com – Intimacy Determines Your Destiny

May 2011

What do these Bible verses mean: “Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many works of power? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, those working lawlessness!” ⇒ Matthew 7:22-23.

Jesus Christ says here that not everyone who thinks they’re going to Heaven *is* going, and that being *able* to go requires God “*knowing*” them. We need to make sure we understand the Bible ⇒ 2 Timothy 2:15. That specific word “*knowing*” literally means to *absolutely know, with clear expression*. Prophesying, casting out demons and works of power *are* Biblical, but *are not* the same as being known by God, these verses tell us.

God knows everything ⇒ Isaiah 44:24 yet honors our free will choices, even dooming ourselves to hell eternally ⇒ Mark 8:34; Revelation 22:17. **The part God does not know** (so to speak) **is the experience of being loved in return** by the people who reject Him.

Matthew 7:21 says ⇒ “Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but the ones who do the will of My Father in Heaven.” With choice comes responsibility ⇒ Galatians 6:7. God fully paid for our eternal salvation and gave us the responsibility of embracing it. He longs for our returned love but does not force it.

It hurts God to see people not make it into Heaven: *people* delight when the wicked die ⇒ Proverbs 11:10 **but God does not** ⇒ Ezekiel 33:11 **because** it seals their destiny to suffer in hell forever. God is about relationship. Demons have a relationship with God: **FEAR**. People in Matthew 7 did miracles in the name of Jesus / Christianity: would it seem they had **SOME** relationship with Him to do that? These are *not* what God wants.

What God longs for is **INTIMATE** relationship. Intimacy is the ticket to Heaven, so to speak. **Intimacy determines your destiny**, in marriage and eternally. **Christianity is MORE than a relationship: Christianity is intimacy**. **Do not be deceived** by believing that a self-prescribed relationship with God qualifies you as a Christian; it doesn’t.

Examine your position with God: fearful, casual, intimate? **There is good news**: you are still on earth so you still have time to get intimate with God! **How do we do that?** Think of intimacy as “Into Me See”. Intimate relationship with God means relating openly: **you look fully into each other**. The Bible and the Holy Spirit are the words and voice of God. God communicates with us more as we invest more into these two areas.

Marriage is patterned after intimacy with God and is designed to work the same way. We relate to our spouse the same ways: not just intellectually as demons do, but by **looking fully into each other** more and more over time. **Is it too late for my marriage?** God is willing to help, without violating anyone’s free will. You and your spouse have to be willing. If you choose to follow God’s ways, then it is NOT too late for your marriage.

Getting the right help is vital, which is why God gave us His Word and His Holy Spirit. These are two of many reasons why intimacy with God brings intimacy in marriage. Seek help from married people who *have* strong intimacy with God and each other. **Intimacy determines your destiny**. Embrace it while you can! ♥ Loren Falzone