

What If Jesus Really Meant What He Said?

(Matthew 16:21-23)

- Introduction:
1. Many people think that God will give them a pass in the day of judgment.
 2. But what I would like for us to consider in this lesson is the following question: “What if Jesus really meant what he said?”

I. Why Some Don't Take Jesus At His Word

- A. They think that God's grace will trump the need for obedience.
- B. However, let's consider what Jesus said about this very scenario.
- C. (Matthew 16:21-23)
 1. “Far be it from you, Lord” – a Hebraism.
 2. Literally – “God be merciful.”
 3. Notice Jesus' response – “Get behind me, Satan.”

II. What If Jesus Really Meant What He Said In...

- A. (Mark 16:15-16).
 1. If something other than salvation were under consideration, would it be misunderstood?
- B. (Matthew 7:21-23).
 1. Is sincerity enough?
 2. Does obedience really matter?
 3. (Acts 23:1).
 4. (Luke 6:46).
- C. (Matthew 18:21-35).
 1. Forgiveness is not optional.
 2. (Luke 17:3-4).
 3. (Ephesians 4:32).
 4. (Matthew 5:22).
- D. (John 8:24; 14:6).
 1. Jesus is the only way to the father.
 2. (Acts 4:12).
 3. The moral character of God demands such.
- E. (Matthew 10:37-38).
 1. Jesus must come first.
 2. (Colossians 1:18).
 3. (Matthew 6:33).
 4. (Matthew 6:24)

- Conclusion:
1. The fact is, Jesus did mean what he said.
 2. And some day, we will be judged by his words (John 12:48).

