



**m**atthew 7 beginning at verse 21 is one of the easiest passages to understand. However, it is also one of the most challenging for anybody as well. How do we come to grips with the demanding religion that Jesus talks about in these verses? Find out this morning.

Tonight, brother Roger brings us a message from God’s word while I speak in the TN Bible College Lectureship in Cookeville.

**IN NEED OF PRAYER :** **Rachel Bartley** is trying to get over pneumonia and broken ribs at home. We are saddened at the passing of **Doug Hood**. Be listening for arrangements. **Willis Rich** is not doing well. **John and Wanda Biggerstaff and Calvin and Mary Doyle Clements** have all been under the weather. Reita Rich has had Bronchitis. **Bobby Harlan** had to undergo more surgery on his shoulder this week. **Frances Hatcher, Marletta Sweezy’s** mother has been in the local hospital.

**Ladies Day:** Our Ladies Day will be on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Advertisements are out front. **We need someone to volunteer to be videographer for this event.**

**Pantry Item:** more beef stew

**Bible Bowl:** The Oak Hill Bible Bowl is March 5<sup>th</sup>. The text is on our website ([www.mtgileadchurch.net](http://www.mtgileadchurch.net)). I would like to know if you want to go and who might need transportation.

**Preaching Class:** The sermon preparation class for Tenn. Bible College is still on track but we just moved everything down a week. So our final session will be this Tuesday at 6pm.

**Sweetheart Banquet:** Thanks for all those who helped decorate and donated for this year’s fellowship.

### WORK LIST FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2016

|                    |                   |                 |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Announcements:     | Kevin Deckard     |                 |
| Opening Prayer:    | Mike Starnes      |                 |
| Closing Prayer:    | Veachel Harlan    |                 |
| Scripture Reading: | Jimmie Proffitt   |                 |
| Song Leader:       | Kevin Sweezy      |                 |
| Head Table:        | Jim Stoops        |                 |
| Wait on Table:     | Larry Copas       | Cary Cornwell   |
|                    | Wes Turner        | Dayton Birdwell |
| Ushers:            | Shawn Massingille | Jeff Gerald     |

In Gal.3:28,the apostle Paul wrote, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, **there is no male and female**, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Many argue this passage proves there should be no gender role distinctions in the church

#### What Was Paul Really Talking About?

The apostle Paul wrote the book of Galatians to rebuke the heresy that if Gentiles wanted to be part of God’s family, they has to be circumcised and keep the Law of Moses. In other words, the false teachers claimed Gentiles could not be justified in the sight of God unless they became proselyte Jews.

Paul’s primary point in chapters 3 and 4 was: when someone responds in faith, being baptized into Christ – whether that person is a Jew, a Gentile, a slave, a freeman, a man, or a woman – he or she becomes an “heir.” And in order to be an “heir,” you had to be a son. Slaves were not heirs. Daughters were not heirs. Only sons were heirs.

Paul is not talking about gender roles; in fact, his primary point isn’t even about gender, it’s about Jews and Gentiles. He is talking about the fact that those who seek to be justified by the Law of Moses are not God’s sons – they are not heirs – only those who have faith in Christ are heirs.

#### But Aren’t Men and Women Equal in Christ?

At this point, I can almost hear people saying, “So, if men and women have equal standing with God, shouldn’t they be able to do the same things?”

It is absolutely true that men and women have equal standing with God. But the fact that God calls men to lead is not an indication of woman’s *inequality*.

When discussing how a Christian man should treat his wife, the apostle Peter wrote, “Show her honor as **a fellow heir** of the grace of life” (1 Pe 3:7). Peter made the same point Paul made, wives are fellow heirs with their husbands. As such, they should be shown “honor.” But that doesn’t mean Peter taught there was no distinction in roles. In the same context, Peter commends “holy women who hoped in God,” like Sarah, who “obeyed Abraham, calling him lord” (1 Pe 3:5-6). He encouraged Christian women to imitate Sarah’s example.

Interestingly, Peter didn’t tell women, “But things are different now. The curse has been lifted. You don’t have to be in subjection any longer.” No, even as “fellow heirs,” women were still told to be in submission.

#### What is the Application of the Phrase?

Then how should Christians apply the phrase, “there is no male and female...in Christ”? First, we must keep it in the context in which it was written. We must remember that Paul is not talking about roles at all, but about the fact that we are all “heirs” in Christ. Secondly, we must not apply this in a way that contradicts other passages of Scripture, but must allow other passages to enrich our understanding.

(over)

The application is two-fold:

1. No one has to be circumcised, or follow the Law of Moses, in order to receive adoption as God’s sons (Gal 3-4).
2. Male Christians should treat their Christian sisters with respect and honor, because they are fellow heirs of the grace of life (1 Pe 3:7).

**The Bottom Line**

Women are absolutely equal to men, but they do *not* have the same roles as men. My wife is equal with me, but we do not have the same roles. She is the wife, I am the husband. She is the mother, I am the father. Our distinct roles – and even my headship of the family – are not indications of inequality, but of our mutual submission to the created order of things (see 1 Tim 2:13).

Adapted from an article by *Wes McAdams*

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**What Must I do?**

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

**Birthdays**

|           |           |       |
|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Charlotte | McPherson | 02/28 |
| Veachel   | Harlan    | 03/02 |
| Elliott   | Brown     | 03/03 |
| Megan     | Brown     | 03/04 |
| Presley   | Woods     | 03/04 |

**February 28, 2016**

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*Elders:*

Veachel Harlan.....270-487-5727  
 Roger Deckard.....270-487-8544  
 Steve Carter.....270-487-8746

*Deacons:*

Larry Copas, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Gerald,  
 Kevin Deckard, Jimmy High, Ray C. Lyon, Michael  
 McPherson, Gary Rowland, Tony Harlan

*Evangelist:*

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494, cell: 427-0520  
 12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

**Sunday:** Bible Study... 9:30am  
 Morning Worship...10:05am

Evening Worship... 6pm

**Wednesday:** Bible Study... 7pm

**Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news.**