Jesus' Last Parable: The Sheep and the Goats Matthew 25:31-46 Parables and Miracles—Part 22 October 8, 2023

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ⁴⁰"The King will reply. 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' 41"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ⁴⁴They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison and did not help you?' ⁴⁵"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever vou did not do for one of the least of these, vou did not do for me.' ⁴⁶"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." --Matthew 25:31-46

Four important lessons from this final parable of Jesus:

1. There will be a time when Jesus will separate the ______ from the ______

The difference between "sheep people" and "goat people" :

"Sheep" have a ______ heart and naturally help those in need

"Goats" have a ______ heart and naturally ignore those in need

2. This judgment will determine where you will _____

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."--Matthew 25:34

"Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."--Matthew 25:41

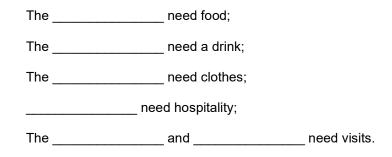
"God is not willing that anyone should perish, but that all should come to repentance." --2 Peter 3:9

3. Helping hose in need doesn't _____ your salvation; it is _____ of your salvation

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...not by works, so that no one can boast." --Ephesians 2:8-9

4. When you show kindness to ______ it's like showing kindness to ______

Jesus mentioned six categories of people who need mercy:



"These are my brothers...For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."--Matthew 12:49-50

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." --Galatians 6:10