



GRASPING THE HOLY

a message from Matthew 7:1-11

MATTHEW 7:1-11

English Standard Version

1 "Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

6 “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!



GRASPING THE HOLY

a message from Matthew 7:1-11

WILL GOD GIVE
WHATEVER WE ASK?

MY FAITH ISN'T
WORKING...

Today's Main Point:

God answers our prayers
when we know him deeply
and ask faithfully.

“Do not give dogs what is holy,
and do not throw your pearls before pigs,
lest they trample them underfoot
and turn to attack you.”

-Matthew 7:6 ESV

THE CONTEXT PRECEDING

Matthew 7:1-6 ESV

¹ "Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

⁶ "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Preceding Context:

DEFECTIVE PERSPECTIVE?

*Abandon judgmental condemnation
for greater discernment, and wisdom.*

These keep life precious.



THE CONTEXT FOLLOWING

Matthew 7:6-11 ESV

6 “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Following Context:

DIMINISHED FAITH?

*Undervaluing or underestimating God,
the Gospel, and Grace robs us of the
bountiful life God planned for us.*



THE CENTRAL VERSE

Matthew 7:6 ESV

“Do not give dogs what is holy,
and do not throw your pearls before pigs,
lest they trample them underfoot
and turn to attack you.”

-Matthew 7:6 ESV

Chiastic Structure: A-B-B'-A'

“Do not give ^Adogs what is ^B*holy*,
and do not throw your ^{B'}*pearls* before ^{A'}pigs,
lest they trample them underfoot
and turn to attack you.”

-Matthew 7:6 ESV

Chiastic Structure: A-B-B'-A'

 C A B
“Do not give dogs what is *holy*,
 C' B' A'
and do not throw your *pearls* before pigs,
 A'' D B''
lest they trample *them* underfoot
 D'
and turn to attack **you.**”

-*Matthew 7:6 ESV*

Chiastic Structure: A-B-B'-A'

C A B
“Do not give dogs what is ***holy***,
C' B' A'
and do not throw your *pearls* before pigs,
A'' D B''
lest they trample *them* underfoot
D'
and turn to attack **you**.”

-Matthew 7:6 ESV

THE CORE QUESTION

Matthew 7:6 ESV

WHAT THINGS
ARE HOLY?

The *reference* form of the question

WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE HOLY?

The *essence* form of the question

“Do not give dogs what is holy,
and do not throw your pearls before pigs,
lest they trample them underfoot
and turn to attack you.”

“WHAT IS HOLY”?

1. The Gospel (our witnessing):
Limit time & energy to the hard hearted.
2. Distinguishing between clean and unclean:
Special spiritual truth only for Christians.
3. **God and his character:**
Him and things associated to Him of faith.

**DON'T FORCE GOD &
SPIRITUAL THINGS ON THE
HARD-HEARTED.**

THE CORE:
HOLY: WHO GOD IS!

SOME SENSES OF “HOLY”

- Of things set apart, made special or clean
- God’s character & plan for His people
- Perfection
- Fullness
- Uniqueness (“No one like Him”)

SOME ASPECTS OF GOD

God's Attributes/Character/Perfections

- All-powerful, All-knowing, All-present
- Eternal, Infinite, Invisible, Immaterial, Simple, One, Unchanging (in character/nature)
- Personal, All-loving, -just, -merciful, -good

The God we worship and trust!

MAKE GOD AND
KNOWING HIM YOUR
SUPREME PRIORITY!

THE CALL: ASK HIM!

Matthew 7:7-11 ESV

6 “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

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