



The Great Separation

MATTHEW 25:31-46

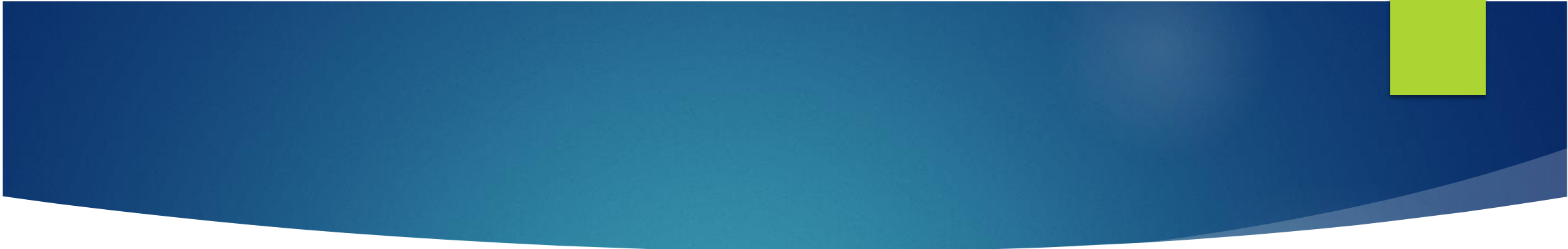



Main Idea

- ▶ Those who trust and love Jesus, will love and serve Christians in need;
- ▶ Those who ignore the needs of Christ's followers, do not really know and love Jesus.

The Great Separation

- ▶ Christ Returns as King and Judge (31-33)
- ▶ The Sheep Inherit the Kingdom (34-40)
- ▶ The Goats are Condemned to Eternal Punishment (41-46)

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- ▶ How might your love to fellow believers look differently if you actually believed that serving them was serving Jesus?

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- ▶ If you recognized that your service to others had tremendous value to Jesus and His kingdom, would that motivate you to serve others more?

The Goats

- ▶ The goats are condemned, not by what they do in this section, but instead by what they didn't do

James 2:14-17

- ▶ “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

Tim Keller on Hell

- ▶ “Virtually all commentators and theologians believe that the Biblical images of fire and outer darkness are metaphorical... To say that the Scriptural image of hell-fire is not wholly literal is of no comfort whatsoever. The reality will be far worse than the image.”