

Matt 21:28-32

"But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him."

How many of you can remember when you were teenagers? Maybe some of you still are. Remember when our mom's would tell us to clean our room, or take out the trash, or do the dishes. We replied, *"I will in a minute"* (Can't you hear your voice even now?). But then you didn't do it, so mom says in a more stern voice, *"Didn't I tell you to _____?"*
"OK, I'll do it in just a minute."

How long did it take us to end up doing what she asked us to do, or what threats from mom did it take to get the job done?

Here Jesus is talking to the religious leaders of the day, and even though they knew what God had said, still they refused to be obedient.

I like Jesus' words here that say, *but tax collectors and harlots believed him.*

Just goes to show you that Jesus is not looking for religious people, or those who go to church and do not listen to His words.

No, Jesus just wants us to be obedient to God's word, and that is to:

† **Mark 16:16** *He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

Believe, such a simple thing to do, yet many, even though they go to church every Sunday, tithe ten percent, give to the needy and so on, they still don't believe in Jesus.

† *but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

I don't read any where in the bible where Jesus says to go to church every Sunday, tithe ten percent, and give to the needy and you will be saved. Even though we should be doing these things and more, but it never ever will earn our way into heaven, we do it simply because we want to be obedient to the Lord.

So don't try to complicate it with man's rules, just tell others about the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that *He who believes and is baptized will be saved*