

The Greatest Sermon Ever Told

**Christ's Sermon
on the Mount**

(Matthew Chapters 5 - 7)



INTRODUCTION

- The Sermon on the Mount is Christ's longest sermon (111 verses)
 - no interruptions by Pharisees, Peter or others
 - an unbroken stream of truth from the One who is full of grace and truth!
- Often considered to be the Kingdom Constitution
 - not an outline of the plan of salvation for the unsaved
 - explains the by-laws that govern true believers--the citizens of God's Kingdom
 - contains the keys to building one's house on the rock!



INTRODUCTION (cont.)

- Jesus mentions “your Father” 17 times and “heaven” 21 times!
- The Kingdom of God is spiritual – it seems opposite to everything we think is “normal”
- **The sermon contains many radical teachings:**
 - blessed to be poor, sad, hungry, persecuted
 - **turn the other cheek, go the 2nd mile, love enemies**
 - anger is like murder, lust or divorce is like adultery
 - **don't worry about food or clothing**
 - store up treasures in heaven, not on earth
 - **BE PERFECT LIKE YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER!**



INTRODUCTION (cont.)

- The sermon establishes important doctrines:
 - forgiveness and reconciliation
 - prayer, fasting, and giving
 - false prophets and hypocrisy in the church
 - Kingdom priorities and rewards—heaven and hell
- The moral and ethical standards presented by Jesus in the sermon are humanly impossible to attain—the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit are required.



OUTLINE: Chapter 5

- Crowds vs. disciples (Mt. 5:1-2)
- Beatitudes (Mt. 5:3-12)
- Salt & light (Mt. 5:13-16)
- Fulfillment of the Law (Mt. 5:17-20)
- Anger & reconciliation (Mt. 5:21-26)
- Adultery (Mt. 5:27-30)
- Divorce (Mt. 5:31-32)
- Oaths (Mt. 5:33-37)
- Humble response to evil (Mt. 5:38-42)
- Love for enemies (Mt. 5:43-48)



Crowds vs. Disciples

Large **crowds** from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the

Jordan followed Him. Now

when He saw the **crowds**,

He went up on a mountainside

and sat down. His **disciples**

came to Him, and He began

to teach them, saying: (Mt. 5:1-2)





The Beatitudes


(Eight 'Be-Happy Attitudes')

1. Humility
 2. Godly Sorrow
 3. Meekness
 4. Righteousness
 5. Mercy
 6. Purity
 7. Peace
 8. Persecution
- 



Beatitude #1: Humility

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for
theirs is the kingdom of heaven
(Mt. 5:3)*





Beatitude #2: Godly Sorrow


*Blessed are those who mourn, for
they will be comforted (Mt. 5:4)*





Beatitude #3: Meekness


*Blessed are the meek, for they will
inherit the earth (Mt. 5:5)*





Beatitude #4: Righteousness

*Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness, for
they will be filled (Mt. 5:6)*





Beatitude #5: **Mercy**

*Blessed are the merciful, for they
will be shown mercy (Mt. 5:7)*





Beatitude #6: Purity


*Blessed are the pure in heart, for
they will see God (Mt. 5:8)*





Beatitude #7: Peace

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for
they will be called the sons of God
(Mt. 5:9)*






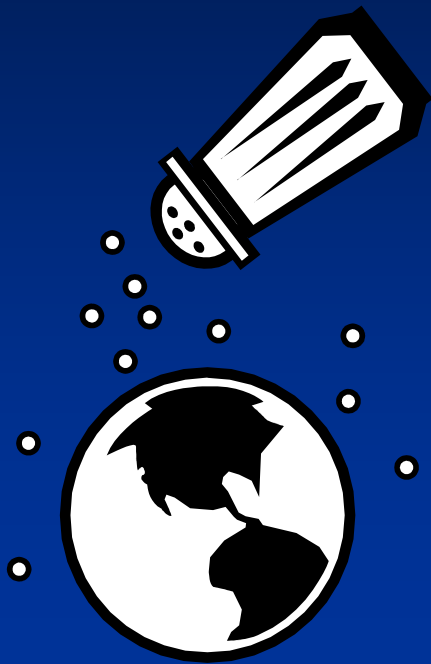
Beatitude #8: Persecution

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Mt. 5:10).

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you (Mt. 5:11-12).



Salt of the Earth



You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men (Mt. 5:13).

Light of the World

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven (Mt. 5:14-16).



Fulfillment of the Law

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished (Mt. 5:17-18).



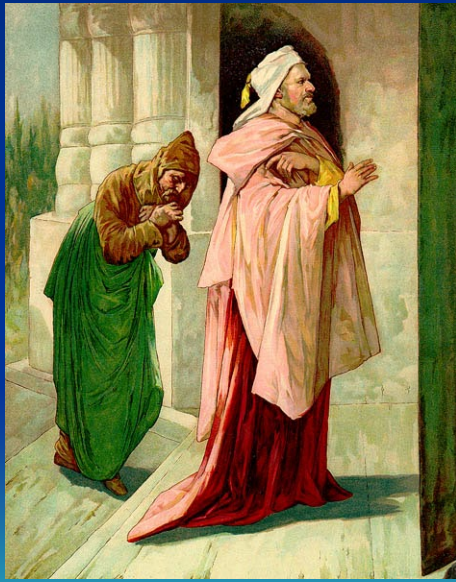
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Kingdom Righteousness

Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but

whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven (Mt. 5:19-20).



Letter vs. Spirit

- In Mt. 5:21-48, Jesus expands and amends the ‘letter of the Law’ on murder, adultery, divorce, oaths, retaliation, and hatred for enemies with the ‘Spirit of the Law,’ repeating the same refrain “you have heard...but I tell you...” seven times.
- The OT Law was written on tablets of stone, this NT Law on human hearts (2 Cor. 3:3, 6); the new law requires a new heart:
 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees and be careful to keep My laws (Ezek. 36:26-27).

Anger Is Like Murder

You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell (Mt. 5:21-22).

Be Reconciled

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar.


First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift (Mt. 5:23-24).





Settle Matters Quickly


Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny (Mt. 5:25-26).





Lust Is Like Adultery

You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart (Mt. 5:27-28).



Get Serious with Sin


*If your right eye causes you to sin, **gouge it out and throw it away**. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, **cut it off and throw it away**. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell (Mt. 5:29-30).*





Divorce Is Like Adultery

It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery (Mt. 5:31-32).



Oaths: Do Not Swear

*Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.' But I tell you, **Do not swear at all**: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. **Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No';** anything beyond this comes from the evil one. (Mt. 5:33-36).*

Humble Response to Evil

*You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, **Do not resist an evil person**. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you (Mt. 5:38-42).*



Love Your Enemies


*You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: **Love your enemies** and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. **If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?** Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? (Mt. 5:43-47).*





Be Perfect

*Be perfect, therefore, as
your heavenly Father is
perfect (Mt. 5:48).*



OUTLINE: Chapter 6

- Warnings against religious hypocrisy
- Giving to the needy (Mt. 6:1-4)
- Prayer (Mt. 6:5-13)
- Forgiveness (Mt. 6:14-15)
- Fasting (Mt. 6:16-18)
- Treasures in heaven (Mt. 6:19-24)
- Do not worry (Mt. 6:25-34)



Giving to the Needy



*Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be **in secret**. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you (Mt. 6:1-4).*

Prayer

*And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then **your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.** And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for **your Father knows what you need before you ask Him** (Mt. 6:5-8).*





The Lord's Prayer

This, then, is how you should pray:

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, **Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.** Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. (Mt. 6:9-13).*

Forgive to be Forgiven

*For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But **IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE MEN THEIR SINS, YOUR FATHER WILL NOT FORGIVE YOUR SINS** (Mt. 6:14-15).*



Fasting

*When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done **in secret**, will reward you (Mt. 6:16-18).*



Treasures in Heaven

*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But **store up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Mt. 6:19-21).*



Good and Bad Eyes

The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If within you is great is that

*then the light
darkness, how
darkness!*



(Mt. 6:22-23)

Cannot Serve Two Masters

*No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **YOU CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND MONEY** (Mt. 6:24).*



Do Not Worry About Food

Therefore I tell you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. **Are you not much more valuable** than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? (Mt. 6:25-27)



Do Not Worry About Clothes

*And **why do you worry about clothes?** See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? (Mt. 6:28-30).*



Do Not Run with the Pagans

So **do not worry**, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore **do not worry** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own (Mt. 6:31-34).



First Things First

*But seek first His kingdom
and His righteousness,
and all these things will
be given to you as well
(Mt. 6:33).*



OUTLINE: Chapter 7

- Judging others (Mt. 7:1-6)
- Ask, seek, knock (Mt. 7:7-12)
- Narrow & wide gates (Mt. 7:13-14)
- Trees & fruit (Mt. 7:15-20)
- Doing God's will (Mt. 7:21-23)
- Wise & foolish builders (Mt. 7:24-27)
- Crowd's response to Jesus' teaching (Mt. 7:28-29)



Judging Others

*Do not judge, or you too will be judged. **For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.** Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? **You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye** (Mt. 7:1-5).*



Be Careful with Sacred Things

Do not give dogs what is sacred . . .



. . . do not throw your pearls to pigs.

If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces (Mt. 7:6).

Ask, Seek, Knock

*Ask and it will be given to you; **seek** and you will find; **knock** and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened (Mt. 7:7-8).*

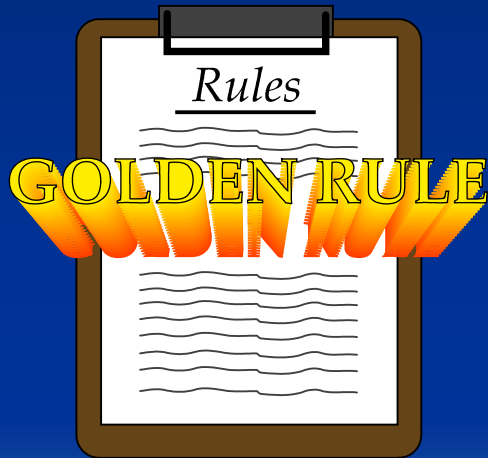
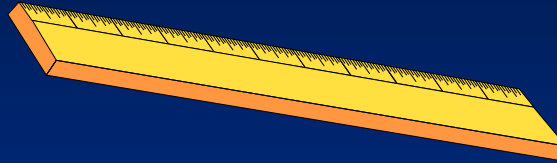


The Father Gives Good Gifts

*Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!** (Mt. 7:9-11).*



The Golden Rule



So in everything, **DO TO OTHERS
WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE
THEM DO TO YOU**, for this
sums up the Law and the
Prophets (Mt. 7:12).

Narrow & Wide Gates

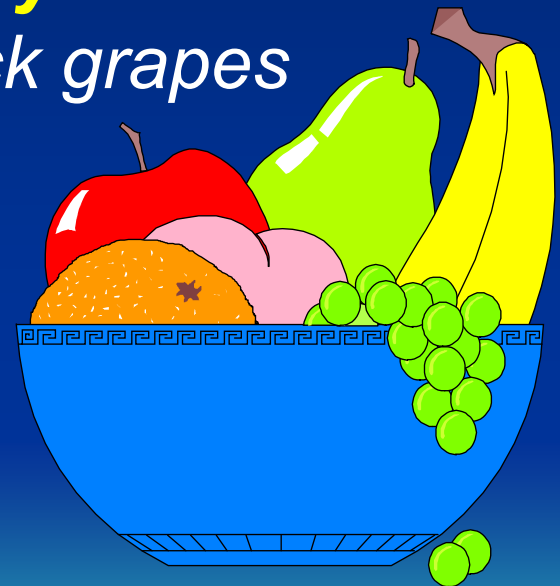
ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE.

*For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But **SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT** (Mt. 7:13-14).*



Trees Known by their Fruit

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **By their fruit you will recognize them.** Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit (Mt. 7:15-18).



Fruits of False Prophets

1. They don't speak according to Scripture (heresy and false doctrine)
2. What they predict or promise does not come to pass
3. Independent, rebellious, not under authority
4. Greedy, selfish – make merchandise of God's people
5. Critical, arrogant and slanderous



Bad Trees Are Cut Down

*A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.** Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them (Mt. 7:19-20).*



Doing God's Will Is Supreme

NOT EVERYONE WHO SAYS TO ME, 'LORD, LORD,' WILL ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, BUT ONLY HE WHO DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!' (Mt. 7:21-23)



Wise & Foolish Builders

Therefore, **everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.**

The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But **everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.** The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash (Mt. 7:24-27).



Crowd's Response to Jesus' Teaching

*When Jesus had finished saying these things, **THE CROWDS WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING**, because He taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law (Mt. 7:28-29).*

