

# **Sermon on the Mount**

## **Part One – Matthew Chapter 5**

### **The Christian Manifesto**

1. The longest recorded discourse by Jesus in the Gospels
2. The highest ethical teaching regarding Christian conduct
3. The Law of Moses is eclipsed, expanded and amplified
4. The Sermon on the Mount was not given to the multitude, but the disciples
5. No mention of the way of salvation

### **Mathew 5:1-16 – Christian Character**

**Matthew 5:17-48 – Christian Conduct** – here Jesus points out that SIN is INWARD, in the heart, not merely a conduct that is external. The Pharisees focused on the external conduct, not the inward attitude of the heart.

**The Beatitudes** – word is literally translated “blessed”. They represent a progression from spiritual poverty to spiritual maturity.

#### **Poor in Spirit**

- When you recognize your spiritual bankruptcy before God
- When you recognize your spiritual condition as a sinner, separated from God and under judgment
- When you understand how much you need a savior

#### **Mourn**

- When you are sorry for your sins
- When you weep over the hardness of your heart and waywardness of your flesh
- When you see the damage sin has done to you and others

#### **Meek**

- Meekness is not weakness
- The ability to absorb an offense without revenge or retaliation
- Combined with humility, not insisting on your own ways
- Not prideful, arrogant nor self-willed
- Meekness is not asserting your rights but living for the glory of God

#### **Hunger and Thirst**

- As we move through awakening and mourning our appetites change
- We hunger after the things of God
- The natural man is diminished
- Our spirit sets the agenda not our flesh

- Our behavior and conduct reflect this change

### **Merciful**

- We show mercy because God has been merciful to us
- We can not earn the mercy of God (Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 2:9-10)
- As we experience God's mercy, we ourselves become merciful to others
- As we mature, we begin to embrace the kingdom of God through our actions

### **Pure in Heart**

- We do not have a divided heart
- Our motivations are pure inwardly
- What guides us is wanting to be pleasing to God
- Our hearts are made pure through faith in Jesus and the cross
- As we mature, we see God's character being formed within us

### **Peacemakers**

- We have the gospel of peace as our footwear (Eph 6:15)
- We are to seek peace with our neighbors
- We do not compromise to achieve peace
- We do not claim peace at any price
- God loves peace
- We are to agents of His peace

### **Persecuted**

- We are now mature and willing to lay down our lives for Him
- We will suffer and accept the hatred of this world on account of Him
- We willingly identify with His name and His gospel and His cause
- We accept that our reward is great in heaven.

### **Salt**

- Salt preserves from decay
- Salt adds flavor
- Salt creates thirst
- Salt is useless if it loses its flavor
- When the church loses its flavor it is trampled underfoot by men

### **Light**

- We live outwardly in such a way as Christ is seen and made known to the world
- The world witnesses our good works and God is glorified
- We are not to hide our light

These eight beatitudes and being “salt” and “light” deal with our character as we move from spiritually dead, through an awakening that causes us to mourn our sins, into a steady progression of new life, awareness and freedom.

## **We now move into Christian Conduct**

Jesus fulfilled the law and the prophets – access to God – Priest/Sacrifice

- The law will stand forever – God’s Word is eternal
- Keeping the Commandments and righteousness only accomplished through Jesus Christ
- Keeping the commandments is not the way of salvation – they show you your sinfulness
- Romans 10:4
- Galatians 5:18
- Ephesians 2:14-15
- Romans 7:1-6

**But I Say Unto You** – Reinterpreting Moses and the Law for the citizens of the Kingdom

- Thou Shall Not Kill
- Gifts and Reconciliation
- Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery
- Removing Sin – the eye, the hand
- Divorce
- Taking an Oath
- Eye for an Eye – Lev. 24:19-22; Lev 19:17,18
- Go the Extra Mile
- Love Your Enemies
- Be Perfect