

The Sermon On The Mount v2

Lesson 1 An Overview

Introduction

- In Matthew 5-7, we have the most extensive teaching of Jesus which is also the most controversial, radical, misunderstood and least practiced of Jesus' teaching
- It is the greatest sermon preached by the greatest preacher, The Sermon On The Mount
- Similar teachings of Jesus can also be found in Luke 6, 11 and 12

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Introduction

- But, what is this sermon about? Why is it misunderstood, misapplied or not applied?
- Often, we fail to place verses that we study in their proper context and end up with the wrong interpretation and application
- How does His sermon apply to us today? How did it apply to His Jewish audience who heard it while living under the Law of Moses?

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The Setting For His Sermon

- Jesus preaches this sermon in Galilee during the second year of His earthly ministry
- Great crowds followed Him but did not understand Him or the nature of His kingdom
- The conflict with the scribes and Pharisees was increasing as they became more angry and envious of Jesus

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The Setting For His Sermon

Mat 3:1 Now in those days John the Baptist *came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,

Mat 3:2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Mat 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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The Setting For His Sermon

Mat 4:23 Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

Mat 4:24 The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.

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The Setting For His Sermon

Mat 4:25 Large crowds followed Him from Galilee and *the* Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and *from* beyond the Jordan.

Mat 5:1 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

Mat 5:2 He opened His mouth and *began* to teach them, saying,

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The Theme of His Sermon – The Gospel of The Kingdom of Heaven

- From the setting of the sermon, we can discern the theme is the gospel (good news) of the kingdom of heaven
- But, what is the kingdom of heaven?
- The Jews, as they do today, were looking for an earthly Messiah to rule an earthly kingdom

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The Theme of His Sermon – The Gospel of The Kingdom of Heaven

Mat 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

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The Kingdom of Heaven Is Where God Rules In The Hearts of Humanity

Luk 17:20 Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed;

Luk 17:21 nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!' For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst."

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The Kingdom of Heaven Is A Spiritual Kingdom

Joh 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

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Righteous Jews and Gentiles In The Kingdom Before The Church Began

Mat 8:8 But the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Mat 8:9 "For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it."

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Righteous Jews and Gentiles In The Kingdom Before The Church Began

Mat 8:10 Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel.

Mat 8:11 "I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven;

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Righteous Jews and Gentiles In The Kingdom Before The Church Began

Mat 8:12 but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

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Jesus' Church Is The Visible Kingdom of Heaven Today

Mat 16:18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Mat 16:19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

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The Kingdom of Heaven Continues In Eternity

2Ti 4:17 But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.

2Ti 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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1. An overview
2. The Beatitudes kingdom character Mat 5:3-12
3. Salt and light kingdom influence Mat 5:13-16
4. Jesus, the law of Moses, the prophets and the kingdom of heaven Mat 5:17-19
5. Surpassing the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, Mat 5:20

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6. Murder Mat 5:21-26
7. Adultery Mat 5:27-30
8. Divorce Mat 5:31-32
9. Oaths Mat 5:33-37
10. Revenge Mat 5:38-42
11. Enemies Mat 5:43-48

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12. Benevolence, prayer and fasting that please God Mat 6:1-18
13. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness Mat 6:19-34
14. Judging others Mat 7:1-6
15. Seeking God and the golden rule Mat 7:7-12
16. Who will enter the kingdom of heaven? Mat 7:13-23
17. Building a lasting life Mat 7:24-29

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Understanding His Sermon

- Many, including myself years ago, have understood His sermon to teach a contrast between the Law of Moses and the gospel
- But, the context of His sermon and other passages lead me to believe Jesus was contrasting the wrong interpretations of the Law of Moses with what the Law of Moses actually taught

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Understanding His Sermon

- Then, did His sermon only apply to those living under the Law of Moses?
- No, it applies to Christians also because many things in the Law of Moses and the gospel, especially moral teachings, are the same
- Murder, before during and after the Law of Moses is sinful

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Understanding His Sermon

- After Jesus fulfilled it, the Law of Moses would be abolished after His death, offering to God His blood, a perfect sacrifice for all, establishing a New Covenant by which all can be saved
- Although we apply His sermon on the Mount to us today and what He taught was also in harmony with the Law of Moses, it does not mean we are under the Law of Moses today

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Jesus Did Not Instruct His Jewish Hearers To Break The Law of Moses

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

Mat 5:18 "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

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Jesus Did Not Instruct His Jewish Hearers To Break The Law of Moses

Mat 5:19 "Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

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Jesus' Death Ended The Law of Moses and Began The New Covenant

Heb 9:15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.

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Jesus' Death Ended The Law of Moses and Began The New Covenant

Heb 9:17 For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.

Heb 9:18 Therefore even the first covenant was not inaugurated without blood.

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Jesus Perfectly Kept The Law So That We Could Be Saved Through The Gospel

Rom 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

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Jesus Perfectly Kept The Law So That We Could Be Saved Through The Gospel

Rom 8:3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

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Many Teachings In The Law of Moses Are Repeated In The Gospel

Rom 13:8 Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

Rom 13:9 For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

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Many Teachings In The Law of Moses Are Repeated In The Gospel

Rom 13:10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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An Overview

1. The setting and theme
2. Defining the kingdom of heaven
3. Contents of His sermon
4. Understanding His sermon