

## The Sermon On The Mount v2

Lesson 5  
Surpassing the righteousness of  
the scribes and Pharisees  
Mat 5:20

### Jesus, The Law of Moses, The Prophets And The Kingdom of Heaven

1. Leaders accuse Jesus of blaspheming, eating with sinners and lawbreaking
2. Jesus did not come to abolish the law or the prophets but to fulfill
  - All prophecies
  - All types
  - Perfectly living righteously under the Law
  - By the Law leading us to Christ

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### Jesus, The Law of Moses, The Prophets And The Kingdom of Heaven

3. While living under the law Jesus taught obedience to the law
4. Righteousness of the kingdom applies to both old and new covenants
5. After fulfilling and abolishing the old covenant Jesus established the new

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### Introduction

- Many Jews looked to the scribes and Pharisees to be their teachers and examples of righteousness according to the Law
- In Mat 5:20, Jesus makes the shocking statement that only those whose righteousness surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees can enter the kingdom of heaven

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### Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

Mat 5:20 "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses *that* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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### Introduction

- What was wrong with the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees?
- How could the Jews listening and we today surpass their righteousness so that we may enter the kingdom of heaven?
- A warning to us – if those who studied and claimed to know much about the Law could fail to live righteously before God, then we must take care lest we follow their flawed example

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## Did Not Apply What They Taught

Mat 23:1 Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples,

Mat 23:2 saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses;

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## Did Not Apply What They Taught

Mat 23:3 therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them.

Mat 23:4 "They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger.

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## Did Things To Be Seen and Praised By Men

Mat 23:5 "But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments.

Mat 23:6 "They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues,

Mat 23:7 and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called Rabbi by men.

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## Did Things To Be Seen and Praised By Men

Joh 12:42 Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing *Him*, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue;

Joh 12:43 for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

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## Neglected To Obey Parts of God's Law

Mat 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

Mat 23:24 "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

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## Emphasized Outward Appearance Instead of Inward Change

Mat 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.

Mat 23:26 "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

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## Emphasized Outward Appearance Instead of Inward Change

Mat 23:27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

Mat 23:28 "So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

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## Emphasized Outward Appearance Instead of Inward Change

Mat 23:29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,

Mat 23:30 and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

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## Emphasized Outward Appearance Instead of Inward Change

Mat 23:31 "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

Mat 23:32 "Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

Mat 23:33 "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?

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## Bound Unlawful Traditions Causing Disobedience To The Law

Mar 7:5 The Pharisees and the scribes \*asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?"

Mar 7:6 And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.

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## Bound Unlawful Traditions Causing Disobedience To The Law

Mar 7:7 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'

Mar 7:8 "Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men."

Mar 7:9 He was also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.

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## Bound Unlawful Traditions Causing Disobedience To The Law

Mar 7:10 "For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH';

Mar 7:11 but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever I have that would help you is Corban (that is to say, given to God),'

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## Bound Unlawful Traditions Causing Disobedience To The Law

Mar 7:12 you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or his mother;

Mar 7:13 thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."

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## Lovers of Money

Luk 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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## Lovers of Money

Luk 16:14 Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and were scoffing at Him.

Luk 16:15 And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.

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## Trusted In Themselves They Were Righteous While Condemning Others

Luk 18:9 And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:

Luk 18:10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

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## Trusted In Themselves They Were Righteous While Condemning Others

Luk 18:11 "The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

Luk 18:12 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'

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## Trusted In Themselves They Were Righteous While Condemning Others

Luk 18:13 "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'

Luk 18:14 "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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## Refused To Be Corrected By The Word of God

Joh 7:45 The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?"

Joh 7:46 The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks."

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## Refused To Be Corrected By The Word of God

Joh 7:47 The Pharisees then answered them, "You have not also been led astray, have you?"

Joh 7:48 "No one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he?"

Joh 7:49 "But this crowd which does not know the Law is accursed."

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## The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

1. Did not apply what they taught
2. Did things to be seen and praised by men
3. Neglected to obey parts of God's law
4. Emphasized outward appearance instead of inward change
5. Bound unlawful traditions causing disobedience to the law

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## The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

6. Lovers of money
7. Trusted in themselves they were righteous while condemning others
8. Refused to be corrected by the Word of God

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## Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

Mat 5:20 "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses *that* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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## Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

- Whether it was the Jews living under the Law of Moses hearing the sermon on the mount or we who are becoming and seeking to live as Christians today, our righteousness must surpass the scribes and Pharisees to enter the kingdom of heaven
- They failed miserably to achieve God's righteousness because they rejected God's way, ultimately Christ

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## They Failed To Achieve God's Righteousness Rejecting Jesus

Rom 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.

Rom 10:2 For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

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## They Failed To Achieve God's Righteousness Rejecting Jesus

Rom 10:3 For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Rom 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

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## Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

- Let us carefully see how they and we can surpass their righteousness, reverencing and submitting to the Word of God
- We dare not try to establish a righteousness of our own which is doomed to failure just as theirs did

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## Apply What We Teach To Ourselves First

Mat 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Mat 7:25 "And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

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## Apply What We Teach To Ourselves First

1Ti 4:12 Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

1Ti 4:16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

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## Obey From The Heart To Be Seen and Praised By God

Deu 6:4 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

Deu 6:5 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deu 6:6 "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.

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## Obey From The Heart To Be Seen and Praised By God

Deu 6:7 "You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

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## Obey From The Heart To Be Seen and Praised By God

Luk 6:45 "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.  
Luk 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

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## Obey From The Heart To Be Seen and Praised By God

Col 3:22 Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

Col 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

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## Obey From The Heart To Be Seen and Praised By God

Col 3:24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

Col 3:25 For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

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## Obey All of God's Word

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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## Obey All of God's Word

Jas 2:8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.

Jas 2:9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

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## Obey All of God's Word

Jas 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

Jas 2:11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

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## Change From The Inside Out

Mat 6:20 "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;

Mat 6:21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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## Change From The Inside Out

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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## Follow Only Traditions In Harmony With The Word of God

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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## Follow Only Traditions In Harmony With The Word of God

2Th 2:14 It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Th 2:15 So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.

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## Seek God First Above All Things

Mat 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

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## Seek God First Above All Things

Mat 6:25 "For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

Mat 6:33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

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## Seek God First Above All Things

1Ti 6:9 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

1Ti 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

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## Seek God First Above All Things

1Ti 6:11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

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## Trust In God's Grace To Save Us Through Faith

Luk 17:10 "So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'"

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## Trust In God's Grace To Save Us Through Faith

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Eph 2:9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

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## Trust In God's Grace To Save Us Through Faith

Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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## Trust In God's Grace To Save Us Through Faith

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

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## Willing To Be Corrected By The Word of God

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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## Willing To Be Corrected By The Word of God

Mat 7:22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

Mat 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

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## Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

1. Apply what we teach to ourselves first
2. Obey from the heart to be seen and praised by God
3. Obey all of God's Word
4. Change from the inside out
5. Follow only traditions in harmony with the Word of God

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## Surpassing The Righteousness of The Scribes and Pharisees

6. Seek God first above all things
7. Trust in God's grace to save us through faith
8. Willing to be corrected by the Word of God

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