

The Sermon on the Mount (Part I): *The Law is Lifted*

Text: Matthew 5-7; Luke 6:17-49

I. Introduction

a. Bible Context

- i. **OT ends with a _____; NT begins with a _____**
- ii. **In the kingdom there are two types of people—the _____ and the _____**
 - 1. **_____ is the key to Happiness—the way to Blessedness**

b. Religious Context

- i. Many professional religious types; the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Essenes, and the Zealots:
 - 1. The *Pharisees* were _____
 - a. They believed proper religion existed in divine laws and religious tradition
 - b. Primary concern was fastidious observance of the Mosaic law and every minute detail of the traditions of the various teachers (rabbis) over the centuries. Focused on the laws of the past.
 - 2. The *Sadducees* were the _____
 - a. Religious liberals who discounted most supernatural things and modified Scripture to fit their own religious philosophy (which was akin to rationalism)
 - 3. The *Essenes* were _____

- a. They believed proper religion meant separation from the rest of society in harsh physical conditions

4. The *Zealots* were _____

- a. Fanatical nationalists who saw Roman rule as an affront to God and they needed to liberate Israel from this oppressive empire
- b. Looked down on Jews who would not join their fight against Rome

ii. **Jesus had a different way than all of them:**

1. **Unlike the Pharisees, Jesus put the focus on the _____**

2. **Unlike the Sadducees, Jesus pointed to _____ and His mind**

3. **Unlike the Essenes, Jesus taught that it is about the _____, not the location of the body, and**

4. **Unlike the Zealots, Jesus said that the revolution should be one of _____**

5. **Unless your righteousness surpasses the Pharisees and scribes, you will not enter kingdom of heaven – (Matt. 5:20)**

iii. **Those who are the *blessed* are blessed from the _____-_____**

iv. **A proper response to the Sermon on the Mount leads to _____**

II. What is the Sermon on the Mount?

- a. The Sermon on the Mount is the heart of Jesus' teaching
- b. SOTM is *one* unit of teaching

- c. A message for disciples of the Lord

III. How does the SOTM apply to our lives?

- 1. The Sermon on the Mount has an _____ application and a _____ implication

IV. What About the Structure?

- a. Begins with Jesus teaching the “Beatitudes”:
 - 1. Every beatitude is a link, and the only way to understand beatitude 5 is to understand 4, and so on.
- b. General and Specific:
 - i. The General is *Matt. 5:3-16*
 - ii. The Christian facing the Law of God and its demands in *Matt. 5:17-48*
 - iii. Chapter 6 relates to the Christian living His life in active submission to God
- iv. Chapter 7 is a warning against false discipleship
 - 1. False disciples _____ others hypocritically (*Matt. 7:1-2*)
 - 2. False disciples bend the Law to their own _____ (*Matt. 5:20*)
 - 3. False disciples do not _____ the Spirit of God (*Matt. 7:15*)
 - 4. False disciples build on _____ (*Matt. 7:24-29*)
 - 5. A false disciple is not counted among the _____

V. Conclusion

- a. The Sermon on the Mount is to be understood now, experienced now, *and* have an ultimate fulfillment in the Millennial Kingdom
- b. Those who are *Blessed* are described in the Beatitudes
- c. **Jesus _____ the Law of God back to where it should have stayed**
- d. **Jesus said that one must go IN, if they were to have any hope of attaining the righteousness needed to be a citizen of the Kingdom**
- e. **The Happiness and Blessedness that God offers goes beyond _____ and remains regardless of our _____**
- f. The Sermon on the Mount gives us this amazing picture of the citizens of His Kingdom, and what makes up their character in stark contrast to whom the world would count as:
 - i. One worth following,
 - ii. A status worth attaining, and
 - iii. A character worth receiving

Answer Key:

I. Introduction

a. Bible Background

- i. **OT ends with a CURSE; NT begins with a BLESSING**
- ii. **In the kingdom there are two types of people—the BLESSED and the CURSED**
 1. **MOURNING is the key to Happiness—the way to Blessedness**

c. Religious Context

1. The *Pharisees* were **TRADITIONALISTS**
 2. The *Sadducees* were the **MODERNISTS**
 3. The *Essenes* were **MONKS**
 4. The *Zealots* were **ACTIVISTS**
- ii. **Jesus had a different way than all of them:**
 1. **Unlike the Pharisees, Jesus put the focus on the INSIDE**
 2. **Unlike the Sadducees, Jesus pointed to GOD and His mind**
 3. **Unlike the Essenes, Jesus taught that it is about the HEART, not the location of the body, and**
 4. **Unlike the Zealots, Jesus said that the revolution should be one of WORSHIP**
 - iii. **Those who are the *blessed* are blessed from the INSIDE-OUT**

- iv. A proper response to the Sermon on the Mount leads to CHRIST

III. How does the SOTM apply to our lives?

- 1. The Sermon on the Mount has an IMMEDIATE application *and* a FUTURE implication

IV. What about the structure?

- b. General and Specific:

- iv. **Chapter 7 is a warning against false discipleship**

- 1. False disciples JUDGE others hypocritically (*Matt. 7:1-2*)
- 2. False disciples bend the Law to their own DESIRES (*Matt. 5:20*)
- 3. False disciples do not RECEIVE the Spirit of God (*7:15*)
- 4. False disciples build on SAND (*7:24-29*)
- 5. A false disciple is not counted among the BLESSED

V. Conclusion

- c. Jesus RAISED the Law of God back to where it should have stayed
- d. Jesus said that one must go IN, if they were to have any hope of attaining the righteousness needed to be a citizen of the Kingdom
- e. The Happiness and Blessedness that God offers goes beyond EMOTION and remains regardless of our CIRCUMSTANCE