

Chapter Five

The Sermon on the Mount – Part 1

I. Introduction and Background to Chapter 5 (5:1,2)

- A. Jesus is in _____
- B. He has a massive crowd following Him, wanting Him to basically do miracles (4:24)
- C. Jesus ascends a small hill and speaks loud enough for thousands to hear Him
- D. Jesus first teaches us the eight principles of the Kingdom of God better known as the _____. Each principle is a key to living a godly life. Each brings a blessing from God. They are focused on what we should be like. Although they are in perfect agreement with the Ten Commandments, they are different. They do not merely keep us from evil but lead us to truth. Because of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the people of God can have the love and holiness of God dominate their lives.
- E. Luke 6:17-20 records much the same words, but this time Jesus is speaking “in the plain.” Obviously Jesus taught it at different times and in different places. Matthew records the initial message He taught, and He would not just teach it once if He wanted many people to learn it.
- F. The word _____ means to be in a good place - that you are well off - That you ought to be very happy about what you are going through!
- G. All of what follows are good things to go through – they are blessings from the Lord, not curses!
- H. All of the following instructions and truths were already in the Old Testament, but had been grossly overlooked and replaced with man’s traditions and ceremonial acts of “piety”!

II. Lesson

A. Jesus First Teaching about Life and How to Handle Troubles

1. *The Beatitudes* (5:3-12)

- a. The _____ (Mat 5:3)
 - 1) “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
 - 2) Poor in spirit is an attitude: Empty, drained, having nothing to stand on, repentant
 - 3) Only when you are poor can you know the value of being rich!
 - 4) Only when empty can you truly want to become full
 - 5) See Isa 57:15; Job 42:6
 - 6) The kingdom of heaven is the riches of the Millennium that are made available to you
 - 7) This is how we all have to be. It is the foundation for all the blessing of God
 - 8) To be full already is a great curse (Mt 13:15; Lk 6:25)
 - 9) Empty yourself, and then ask God to fill you!!!
- b. The _____ (Mat 5:4)
 - 1) “Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.”
 - 2) Mourning is sadness
 - 3) Sadness is a part of life
 - 4) And it is a necessary part of a Christian’s life 2Cor 7:10
 - 5) It is not the end, but Jesus promises to comfort us when we do mourn
 - 6) David mourns through much of the Psalms.
 - 7) This is not a command to be sad or mournful, but to allow yourself to be sad
 - 8) See Eccl 3:4; Ps 30:5
 - 9) Don’t be afraid to mourn
 - 10) When we don’t have a balance in our attitudes, then we damage our hearts that were made to rejoice and mourn!
- c. The Importance of _____ Mat 5:5
 - 1) Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. (See Ps 37:11,9)
 - 2) The truth about inheriting things:
 - a) The Christian of this dispensation inherits the New Jerusalem
 - b) The Obedient Jew of the OT and of the Tribulation inherits the earth (Mt 5:5)
 - c) The Believing Gentile outside of this dispensation inherits the universe (Deut 4:19)

- 3) Meekness is patience while receiving injuries. It is not cowardness
 - 4) Jesus Christ expressed all these attitudes, but we know Him best for this attitude of meekness (Matthew 11:29)
 - 5) It is the reception of injuries with a belief that God will vindicate us (Rom 12:19).
- d. Hungering and thirsting after _____ Mat 5:6
- 1) Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
 - 2) Intense, desperate desire – not flippant, or careless
 - 3) Looking for righteousness
 - 4) See also Matthew 6:33
 - 5) This is a promise of FILLING
 - 6) Christ's righteousness is available to fill us
 - 7) Christ's Spirit available to fill us
 - 8) We can be FILLED with Christ's joy
 - 9) All if we want HIS righteousness!
 - 10) Those who are perishing for want of righteousness; those who feel that they are lost sinners and strongly desire to be holy, shall be thus satisfied
- e. Being _____ (Mat 5:7)
- 1) Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
 - 2) Mercy is the act of NOT giving someone the condemnation and judgment that they deserve
 - 3) God referred to as being Merciful more than being Gracious
 - 4) Mercy MUST precede Grace
 - 5) Mercy is having compassion and pity on someone who does not deserve it
 - 6) It is from MERCY that a person can offer forgiveness (Cf Mt 6:15; 18:33-35) – you cannot really forgive someone who deserves forgiveness because they don't exist!
 - 7) God extends mercy towards guilty sinners, and then demands that they become merciful, or He retracts His mercy (2Sam 22:25,26)
 - 8) If you do not have a merciful spirit, you actually hurt yourself (Pr 11:17)
 - 9) Mercy is obtained from God when we have none (Heb 4:16)!
- f. Living as _____ (Mat 5:8)
- 1) Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
 - 2) Your flesh will never be pure, yet that is what religion tries to cleanse all the time (Mt 23:25-28)
 - 3) But your heart can be pure – at least for extended periods of time (Ps 119:9; Pr 28:13; Heb 9:14)
 - 4) Can a man ever SEE God? Salvation enables you to one day see God! That ought to be the goal of getting saved, and living the Christian life!!!
 - 5) On a devotional level, a Christian, who has a filthy heart will never see God at work around them, but a man with a clean heart will sense and "see" God's work all around them and in them (Philp 2:13)
- g. Blessed are the _____ (Mat 5:9)
- 1) Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
 - 2) Making peace not mainly between earthly enemies like all politicians proudly seek to do
 - 3) But a peacemaker between sinners and GOD! Reconciling the world to God (2Cor 5:18-20)
 - 4) These are soul-winners, and people who compell people who are far away from God, to get back to God!
- h. Being _____ (Mat 5:10-12)
- 1) Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - a) It is cool to get attacked and derided for living right and godly
 - b) God is honoured because you have come out of the closet
 - c) If people hated Jesus your master, they will hate you too
 - d) It is a good thing to be identified as a Christian (1Pet 4:12-16)

- 2) Mat 5:11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
 - a) To revile is to speak to someone abusively, to blame, to slam, to verbally hate
 - b) To be persecuted is to be punished, stopped, hindered for what you believe
 - c) Make sure that what people say about you is false if they are calling you a criminal!
 - 3) Mat 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
 - a) Look at the commands: REJOICE – leap and shout for joy
 - b) Be exceedingly glad! When was the last time you did that when someone mocked you, spit upon you, disowned you?
 - 4) Have you ever lost anything following Christ? If not, then I doubt you are very much out of the closet!!!
2. The Disciple's _____ (5:13,14)
- a. Jesus has just finished giving the Beatitudes, the life attitudes of the Christian, as he and she lives in this dark world. He then launches into the concept of salt and light.
 - b. Jesus used these analogies together for a reason. He was the Master of using word pictures to communicate truth. Everyone listening understood what Jesus was trying to communicate. They all knew about salt and light, so Jesus' use of these common elements of life only served to help them understand what Jesus wanted here – for His followers to not hide their affect on the world around them!
- c. Salt**
- 1) We need to be "salty" to the world around us.
 - 2) **Three Functions of Salt:**
 - a) The Salt Institute says that there are over 14,000 known uses for salt.
 - b) Salt Enhances _____ (2Cor 2:14-16)
 - c) Salt Aids in _____.
 - d) Creates _____.
 - 3) Dangers of becoming " _____ " - Let's look again at the verse (5:13):
 - a) We become ineffective in _____.
 - b) We gain a damaged _____.
 - c) We _____ the image of the _____.
 - d) If a person has become "unsalty," can they become "salty" again?
- d. Light**
- 1) Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
 - a) Doctrinally referring to the Jews as a peculiar people (Isa 60:1)
 - b) But it expands to include the followers of Jesus that Jesus was drawing after Him (1Pet 2:9)
 - c) The whole world lies in darkness, loving darkness and hating the light
 - d) The only way for the world to know God is for them to see light
 - e) John the Baptist was a great example of the light of a believer (John 5:33-35)
 - f) Light is illumination – not just truth, but opening people's blinded eyes to the truth – teaching, instruction!
 - 2) Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
 - a) So don't hide your Christian life
 - b) Let it give light to all around you – your family, your community
 - c) You can't fake it very long. But if it is in you, it will show. So don't hinder it!
 - 3) Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
 - a) Light here is expanded to be GOOD WORKS

- b) Not to be saved, but because we are saved
- c) When people see godly lives, THAT is the only time that unsaved people will glorify God in heaven! They probably will hate you, but they will only honour God if someone lives the Gospel in front of them!
3. Teaching on the Importance of _____ (5:17-20)
- a. The Old Testament consisted of two parts: the _____ and the _____. One more part was needed to complete it – the _____!
 - b. There were many people who talked about destroying the Law, and over turning the prophets
 - c. Jesus said He had come to do the impossible – _____!
 - 1) Fulfil the righteousness of the Law
 - 2) Fulfil the prophecies of the Prophets
 - d. God's law was not frivolous. It is the foundation for Grace and the Gospel.
 - e. The Ten Commandments
 - 1) Exo 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
 - 2) Exo 20:4-6 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
 - 3) Exo 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
 - 4) Exo 20:8-11 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.
 - 5) Exo 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
 - 6) Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.
 - 7) Exo 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.
 - 8) Exo 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.
 - 9) Exo 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
 - 10) Exo 20:17 Thou shalt not covet
 - f. Beyond the Ten Commandments, there are _____ total laws in the Old Testament
 - g. If it was possible to fulfil it, then there was hope for any man, even a Gentile man to obtain righteousness and come to God! The key would be having God come down Himself and fulfil it, and then IMPUTE it to sinners on their faith in Him!!!
 - h. No jot or tittle would disappear from the Law until heaven and earth disappeared
 - 1) Refers to Hebrew letters of the Law – not GREEK letters of the LXX Septuagint!
 - 2) Jot – A 'jot' is the simplest mark of an alphabet, like the iota. The word "jot" is an English transliteration of "iota" which is the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet. "Iota," in turn, is the nearest Greek equivalent for the Hebrew yodh.
 - 3) Tittle – a mark like the crossing of a 't'
 - 4) The Jewish scribes who copied the MT (Massoretic Text) of the Hebrew Bible scrolls paid the greatest attention to the minutiae of detail and such marks attached to each consonant throughout the entire text. They even numbered every letter, word, sentence, paragraph, chapter, section, and scroll to insure that the total equalled that of the text being copied before allowing it to enter the holy synagogue.
 - 5) The meaning of the passage is very clear. Not even the smallest letter or even its decorative spur will ever disappear from the "God Breathed" Word until all is fulfilled. In fact when heaven and earth are replaced by a new heaven and earth, the Word of the Lord will have accomplished its purpose and will be fulfilled in every detail even to the very letter.

- i. Notice that Jesus equated HIS words with the permanence of God's Law (Matt 24:25)!!!
 - j. Anyone who disavows the Law will be least in the Millennium
 - 1) Refers to followers of Jesus getting into the kingdom, but not respecting the law
 - 2) John the Baptist was less than those least in the kingdom of heaven (Mt 11:11)
 - k. Only those who abide by the Law will be great in the kingdom!
 - 1) Christianity does not discard the Law – only the Ceremonial Law
 - 2) We live by, and abide by the law (Rom 13:8-10)
 - 3) BUT! We must follow God's Laws BETTER than the Pharisees – understanding the spirit of the law, and not just the letter (5:20)
4. Teaching on _____ (5:21-26)
- a. Seventh Commandment - Thou shalt not kill (Exodus 20:13) – pretty clear
 - b. Murderers are in danger of judgment (Ex 20:12-14)
 - c. Virtual murder (anger) is just as bad! (Gen 4:5,6)
 - d. Anger is acceptable in short duration, but never anger without a cause – see new bibles!!!
 - e. Raca is a hebrew word for “vain fellow” – air head, dope. So, don't be calling each other names or you may have to appear before a council to explain yourself and be punished
 - f. To call someone “fool” is to judge them as a child of the devil, and unbeliever (Ps 14:1)
 - g. Both of these words were referring to how people treat each other and talk to each other when they are in a fight and hating one another! Jesus condemns that!
 - h. He demands that we make up with each other before we try and worship God!
5. Teaching on _____ and _____ (5:27-30)
- a. Seventh Commandment - Thou shalt not commit adultery (Ex 20:14). It is very wicked!
 - b. But just lusting after a woman in your heart is just as bad!
 - c. The idea of adultery meaning that usually a woman you are lusting after is not your own wife (even if unmarried), and therefore considered adultery!
 - d. If anything is causing you to sin against God's Laws, then CUT it off
6. Teaching on _____ (5:31-32)
- a. Old Testament instruction on divorce is found in Deut 24:1-4
 - b. The idea is, “Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him JUST give her a writing of divorcement” and then leave and find another wife, and she another husband!
 - c. BUT, Jesus challenges:
 - 1) The only time you should divorce your wife is for the cause of fornication
 - a) Sex that is not between a husband and his wife
 - b) More general than adultery – any kind of sex outside of marriage, before and during marriage
 - 2) Because the abandoning of your wife is actually causing your wife to commit adultery
 - 3) This kind of attitude on the part of the man was abandonment, and it is so wrong!
 - 4) And because she didn't initiate the divorce, she is still in love with her first husband, and when she marries again (and she will usually HAVE to for financial reasons) whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery, because she did not want to leave her first husband!
 - d. The truth is, God hates divorce (Mal 2:16)! You had better hate it too!
 - e. Jesus will deal more with marriage and divorce in Mt 19:3-12 (see also Mark 10:2-9)
 - f. Paul will deal with re-marriage in 1Cor 7:27,28
7. Teaching on _____ and Keeping Your Promises (5:33-37)
- a. The third commandment (Ex 20:7) “Not taking the name of the Lord in vain”
 - b. See Lev 19:12, and also all the Scriptures on making vows
 - c. Jesus says, just don't make vows in normal conversation.
 - d. BUT you must make vows:
 - 1) When in court – swear to God

- 2) When getting married
 - e. The idea is that people don't need to hear you swear for them to take you seriously – they just need to hear you say yes and mean yes, or say no and mean no!
 - f. Don't affirm that what you are saying is true!
 - g. Swearing never has power in itself – only a vow does, not constantly having to affirm that what you are saying is the truth!
8. Teaching on NOT Always Paying-Back _____ for _____ (5:38-42)
 - a. The law comes from Exodus 21:21-27
 - b. This is the basis for societal justice, but not personal peace, or for personal satisfaction. This law regulated judges, but had become the basis for seeking of REVENGE
 - c. To demand justice is a right thing to do, but it will not make up for the loss of someone's act against you – that will have to come from your relationship with Jesus!
 - d. Jesus here teaches Biblical _____:
 - 1) Turning the other cheek
 - 2) Not that we should allow others to murder, and rape and smash things while we stand passively by
 - 3) But that when someone hurts us, that we let them
 - 4) There is a limit – like when a person attempts to hurt us enough to put us in the hospital – we should defend ourselves
 - 5) When someone says something against us, we let them
 - 6) When someone robs us, let them.
 - 7) But, when someone is robbing someone else, we intervene
 - 8) The idea is that we do not seek revenge for ourselves, but that we yield our rights, and our demands as Christians, knowing that God grants those rights, and can suspend them
 - 9) Otherwise we become hateful, angry, bitter, and vengeful, and we become a tool of Satan, and not a tool of Justice
 - 10) Another point: This does not mean you don't point out someone's injustice against you (see John 18:23).
9. Teaching on Conquering Your _____ (5:43-48)
 - a. Leviticus 19:18
 - b. The part of hating our enemies was inferred by the Jews.
 - c. The people had taken this so far as to become totally racist, and rejecting of their role in the world – that of being an attracting light to that of hate towards the Gentiles, and towards anyone who was acting or believing different than their strictest Pharisees.
 - d. To love your enemies is to show love towards them (Rom 12:17-20) – not seek to be with them, and enjoy their company, and emulate them!

III. Conclusions About Chapter 5

A.