
First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

The Sermon on the Mount

Message #1 in the series

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Sunday, January 18, 2026 • Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

As we begin this study on the Sermon on the Mount, here are things that we need to keep in mind:

1. _____ is the author of this book.
2. Matthew wrote his book with _____ people primarily in mind to help them understand that Jesus was the long-awaited _____ and _____ of God's people.

Matthew probably wrote his Gospel in order to preserve written eyewitness testimony about the ministry of Jesus. Matthew's Gospel emphasizes certain theological truths. First, Jesus is the Messiah, the long-awaited King of God's people. Second, Jesus is the new Abraham, the founder of a new spiritual Israel consisting of all people who choose to follow Him. This new Israel will consist of both Jews and Gentiles. Third, Jesus is the new Moses, the deliverer and instructor of God's people. Fourth, Jesus is the new Immanuel, the virgin-born Son of God who fulfills the promises of the Old Testament. (Introduction to Matthew, CSB Study Bible)

3. It was most likely written between _____, before the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 70AD by the _____.
4. You will find a shorter version of the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of _____ (6:17-49).

The Ministry of Jesus Begins

¹² When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. ¹³ He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ “In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali,
beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River,
in Galilee where so many Gentiles live,
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light.

And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow,
a light has shined.”

¹⁷ From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.”

The First Disciples

¹⁸ One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁹ Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” ²⁰ And they left their nets at once and followed him.

²¹ A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. ²² They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

Crowds Follow Jesus

²³ Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. ²⁴ News about him spread as far as Syria, and people soon began bringing to him all who were sick. And whatever their sickness or disease, or if they were demon possessed or epileptic or paralyzed—he healed them all. ²⁵ Large crowds followed him wherever he went—people from Galilee, the Ten Towns, Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from east of the Jordan River. (Matthew 4:12-25, NLT)

The Sermon on the Mount

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him,² and he began to teach them. (Matthew 5:1-2, NLT)

Details we must pay attention to in verses 1-2 as we begin our study of the Sermon on the Mount:

1. There are _____ of people surrounding Jesus on this day. The reason they are there is because He had been _____ people throughout the region of Galilee, which is where this sermon took place.
2. The primary audience for this sermon are the _____ of Jesus. (Matthew 5:1-2) In the biblical passages just ahead of this sermon, both Matthew and Luke show Jesus selecting the 12 disciples – later known as His apostles. In this sermon He was teaching them standards of His Kingdom. The secondary audience for this sermon is the _____, which is made up of primarily _____ people from this region.
3. This sermon takes place on the side of a _____. Matthew records 7 different mountain experiences in his account of Jesus' ministry, but this experience is compared with the one that _____ and the Israelites had with God on the mountain in Exodus 19-20.

¹⁶ On the morning of the third day, thunder roared and lightning flashed, and a dense cloud came down on the mountain. There was a long, loud blast from a ram's horn, and all the people trembled. ¹⁷ Moses led them out from the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ All of Mount Sinai was covered with smoke because the

LORD had descended on it in the form of fire. The smoke billowed into the sky like smoke from a brick kiln, and the whole mountain shook violently.¹⁹ As the blast of the ram's horn grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God thundered his reply.²⁰ The LORD came down on the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses climbed the mountain. (Exodus 19:16-20, NLT)

¹⁸ When the people heard the thunder and the loud blast of the ram's horn, and when they saw the flashes of lightning and the smoke billowing from the mountain, they stood at a distance, trembling with fear.

¹⁹ And they said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen. But don't let God speak directly to us, or we will die!"

²⁰ "Don't be afraid," Moses answered them, "for God has come in this way to test you, and so that your fear of him will keep you from sinning!"

²¹ As the people stood in the distance, Moses approached the dark cloud where God was. (Exodus 20:18-21, NLT)

4. Jesus is _____ as he brings this message.

Many would say that is the normal position for a Rabbi when teaching, but Jen Wilkin in her study on the Sermon on the Mount believes that it is reflective of a truth Matthew is showing His readers.....that Jesus is the King of Heaven – where He is currently seated on His throne.

Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets.² And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe.³ The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven.⁴ This shows that the Son is far greater than the angels, just as the name God gave him is greater than their names. (Hebrews 1:1-4, NLT)