

THE GREATEST SERMON IN HISTORY

MATTHEW 5-7 | ERIC SIMPSON | October 10, 2021

- The glory

Matthew 5:1

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down...

Matthew 4:23-25

23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. 24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them. 25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

Matthew 5:3-6

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

blessed = makarios (mak-ar'-ee-os) = in the enviable position of receiving God's favor

"The Law and the Prophets had been twisted around to authorize an oppressive, though religious, social order that put glittering humans—the rich, the educated, the well-born, the popular, the powerful, and so on—in possession of God. Jesus' proclamation clearly dumped them out of their privileged position and raised ordinary people with no human qualifications into the divine fellowship by faith in Jesus." – Dallas Willard

Jesus is inviting anyone, from any background into a kind of life marked with...

- joyful divestiture = constantly shedding wealth, power, comfort
- absolute integrity = sexually and in speech
- love for people that is free from disdain or indifference
- love for God that's so personal and powerful that worry has no grip on your heart

- The terror

"God save me from the Sermon on the Mount!"

- 1.This is exactly how you want the people who live around you to be.
- 2.This is what you know you should be like.
- 3.BUT...You know you fall infinitely short of it.

- The Hero

Matthew 5:20

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

righteousness = right living in God's eyes, being a really good person

We must BE this before we can DO this.

We become the kind of person from which the actions in Matthew 5-7 freely flow.

Philippians 3:9

...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

Jesus tips the righteousness scales from external-internal, to internal-external.

Matthew 5:17

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

"God save me THRU the Hero of the sermon on the mount!"

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader by C.S. Lewis

Aslan:

"You will have to let me undress you."

Eustace:

"I was afraid of his claws, I can tell you, but I was pretty nearly desperate now.

So I just lay flat down on my back and let him do it. The very first tear he made was so deep that I thought it had gone right into my heart. And when he began pulling the skin off, it hurt worse than anything I've ever felt...Well, he peeled the beastly stuff right off...and there it was lying on the grass: only ever so much thicker, and darker than the others had been. And there was I as smooth and soft as a peeled switch and smaller than I had been...I'd turned into a boy again."