

The Sermon on the Mount

Study of Matthew, Part 12

Matthew 5-7

Sermon Outline

I. Introduction

The Sermon on the Mount is probably the best known part of the teaching of Jesus, though arguably it is the least understood, and certainly it is the least obeyed. It is the nearest thing to a manifesto that he ever uttered, for it is his own description of what he wanted his followers to be and to do. --John Stott

The more I read these three chapters the more I am both drawn to them and shamed by them. Their brilliant light draws me like a moth to a spotlight; but the light is so bright that it sears and burns. -- D. A. Carson

II. What is the Sermon on the Mount all about?

- A. It shows the Kingdom of God.
- B. It shows the Spirit of the Law of God.
- C. It shows the Heart of God.
- D. It shows our heart.
- E. It shows our sin.
- F. It shows our need.
- G. It shows the Savior of God.
- H. It shows the Gospel of God.
- I. It shows who we are to be.
- J. It shows how we are to live.

The standards of the Sermon are neither readily attainable by every man, nor totally attainable by any man. To put them beyond anybody's reach is to ignore the purpose of the sermon; to put them within everybody's is to ignore the reality of man's sin. --John Stott

III. How is the Sermon on the Mount organized?

- A. The Kingdom's Values & Blessings (5:1-12)
- B. The Kingdom's Presence (5:13-16)
- C. The Kingdom's Righteousness (5:17-48)
- D. The Kingdom's Lifestyle (6:1-7:12)
- E. The Kingdom's Invitation (7:13-27)

IV. How should we study the Sermon on the Mount?

- A. Attentively:
- B. Prayerfully:
- C. Submissively:
- D. Dependently:
- E. Practically:
- F. Christocentrically:

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Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. What did you think about the different way our worship was structured this last Sunday? Could you imagine yourself on the mountain listening to Jesus? Did you hear Jesus preaching the Sermon on the Mount?

2. Read the Sermon on the Mount together again.

3. Why is it valuable to read the Sermon in its entirety, in one sitting? What did you gain by this exercise? What did you see? What jumped out at you?

4. Who was present when Jesus preached it? How do we know? Who does Jesus want to hear His words? How would a non-believer hear the Sermon? How should a believer hear the Sermon?

5. What is the Sermon on the Mount all about? What does it show? How does a believer hear it? Discuss how you see the list of 10 in the Sermon. Do you see how the Sermon shows these things? How?

6. How is the Sermon on the Mount organized? Do you see some natural breaks? What are some of the topics that are dealt with in the Sermon? Is there more than one way to outline the Sermon?

7. How should we read and study the Sermon on the Mount? Explain, discuss and flesh out each of the ideas given in the outline?

8. How does the Sermon on the Mount exalt Jesus Christ, explain Jesus Christ or apply Jesus Christ for us? How do we read the Sermon on the Mount Christocentrically?