

The Life of Christ

The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:1-7:29 (5 ½ pgs, 111 verses) vs. Luke 6:17-49 (2 pgs, 32 verses)

Studying the Life of Christ, here are His plainest teachings – a Vital Study!

Overview

Matthew 5:1-2	Introduction
Matthew 5:3-12	The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:13-16	Salt and Light
Matthew 5:17-20	Upholding the Law
Matthew 5:21-32	Personal Relationships
Matthew 5:33-37	Against oaths
Matthew 5:38-48	Love your enemies
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18	Almsgiving, prayer, and fasting
Matthew 6:8-13	The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:14-15	Forgiveness Required
Matthew 6:19-24	Serving One Master
Matthew 6:25-34	Trust God for Daily Care
Matthew 7:1-5	Against Judging Others
Matthew 7:6	Against Wasting Sanctified Life
Matthew 7:7-11	Encouraged to Pray
Matthew 7:12	Golden Rule
Matthew 7:13-14	The Narrow Way
Matthew 7:15-23	False Prophets – Identification and End
Matthew 7:24-27	The Two Foundations
Matthew 7:28-29	The Effect of the Sermon

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The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-12

Matthew 5:1-2 Setting/Intro

Matthew 5:3 Poor in Spirit >> Thiers is the Kingdom of Heaven

Not “Blessed are the Rich in Spirit”; Ground floor is need

Poor is Spirit is a literal rendering, would apply the downcast, the weak, or oppressed Christian

Encouraged to think on Spiritual truth of eternal value, the Kingdom of Heaven (not M-King)

(Read Revelation 21:1-8)

Matthew 5:4 Mourners >> Comforted

This applies to those who have lost loved ones and are in life-altering grief

Comfort is to be found in prayer, in other believers, but ultimately in Revelation 21:3-4

Matthew 5:5 Gentle >> Inherit the Earth

This applies to those who are gentle in their mannerisms, i.e. considerate and polite, not harsh.

This is someone people are relaxed around and can enjoy being with. **Translation note:** KJV

“MEEK” inappropriately connotes weakness and subservience not in the Greek word used here, or in Messianic prophecy in Hebrew.

Inheriting the Earth (Back to Revelation 21 – consider; maybe this not only means that these people will be granted a place on the new Earth, but also, that all the people living on the New Earth will be this way.

Matthew 5:6 Hunger, Thirst after Righteousness >> Filled

Don’t give up!

Applies to the those who seek a closer relationship with God, but who are caught up in sins and failings in their daily life, who have much to overcome.

This also applies to those who seek that closer relationship, and are living imperfect, but good, even sacrificial, moral lives.

The idea of being “satisfied” when we never break with sin until death, is one of supreme encouragement – success is based on Christ, not on us!

Matthew 5:7 Merciful >> Mercy

Self-evident, this is how we should live, and Jesus promises kindness to us as reward to our kindness to others. See 6:14-15, 18:21+

Matthew 5:8 Pure in Heart >> Shall see God

Applies ONLY to those genuinely saved. Salvation brings a peace, and end of spiritual conflict which divides and troubles heart and soul. We are still tempted by our fleshly nature, but our heart, our soul is set, sealed and in God's hands.

The encouragement of this purity, characteristic of salvation, is to see God – we shall dwell with us, as in Revelation 21.

Matthew 5:9 Peacemakers >> Called "Sons of God"

To make peace means to not retaliate – one cannot be the peacemaker unless he lays down his right to vengeance, Matthew 5:38-48.

The reward is recognition as "Christians"

Matthew 5:10 Persecuted for Righteousness >> Thiers is the Kingdom of Heaven

Persecution for Christianinty was coming, and would get extreme early and often in history, promised to the disciples, and promised to us in still-future prophecies, but we look forward to the end of the Book!

Change in Tense!

Matthew 5:11-12 Persecuted for Christ >> Reward in heaven

Personal in direction – not "those who," but "you!"

Daily in application!

Our reward is not here, though God blesses us abundantly, but more to come!