

## “You Have Heard It Said . . . But I Say”

### Review

- K of God is Central Message from Gen to Rev
- Prophets: Literal Kingdom on this earth
- Prophets gave a snapshot of the power, glory, and overwhelming might of this Kingdom
- That righteousness, justice, peace implemented by Messiah, Son of Abraham, Son of David
- John the Baptist: Forerunner for the Messiah
- Prepare the way of the Lord: [Matthew 3:2](#)
- Calls people of God to repent, because righteousness is required to enter this Kingdom
- Jesus: Same message: [Matthew 4:17](#); with miracles
- Great anticipation by God’s people
- Forerunner has come; Messiah is in their midst
- Expectation: The Kingdom is come!
- Yet, where is the Kingdom?
- Where is the crushing of unjust K’s and rulers?
- Where is the establishment of righteousness?
- Why does Herod and Rome Still Rule?
- Jesus introduces the “Mysteries of the Kingdom”
- Truths previously not revealed to any of prophets
- While the prophets depicted the nature and character of the kingdom, they did not tell how it would be inaugurated
- In contrast to the great power and might that will characterize Kingdom in future, it has now begun:
- Unobtrusively, as a farmer sowing seed
- Insignificantly, as a tiny mustard seed
- Through Son of David born in a lowly manger
- However Kingdom is not to be despised or ignored
- It is to be seized with great zeal!
- The promised Messiah has come and inaugurated in an unexpected manner the prophesied Kingdom But God's demand remains the same. Only ones allowed to inherit this Kingdom after death and their resurrection are righteous individuals.
- **How Do I Enter this Kingdom?**
- So, what kind of righteousness is required to enter this Kingdom?
- That is the purpose of the “Sermon on the Mount”
- The thematic statement for Sermon: [Matt 5:17-20](#)
- Righteousness based on law & prophets
- Superior to Scribes, Pharisees, pastors, profs, etc
- “You have heard” versus “I say to you”
- What is the righteousness required?
- Review Beatitudes: [Matthew 5:3-16](#)
- Anger: [Matthew 5:21-24](#)
- Adultery and Divorce: [Matthew 5:27-32](#)
- Greed: [Matthew 6:19-24](#)
- Judging: [Matthew 7:1-5](#)
- Perfection: [Matthew 6:48](#)
- **Delivered from the Power of Sin**
- At this point in the sermon, Jesus’s disciples are thinking what you and I are thinking
- I am not righteous!
- I have been angry with so many; committed adultery mentally or physically; I have lied; I have been hateful revengeful; I have hated my enemies; I have improperly judged others
- So, I will never enter the into the Kingdom
- The Good News is that God's people can be delivered from the power of sin, so they can enter the Kingdom of God; and this is the way.
- Whenever I am confronted with my sin, I need to confess it for it is my confessed sin that G forgives
- [1 John 1:9](#)
- Because I recognize my attitude or actions were not appropriate for God's Kingdom, I turn away from it--I stop it. This is repentance.
- Repentance is NOT saying I will not do it again
- Repentance is NOT doing the sin again.
- What the Scriptures say what is repentance probably is different than what we might have been told what repentance is
- If you are like me, then you may be thinking, “What happens if I do not confess my sin?”
- There is not one place in the Scriptures that states we will be forgiven.
- On the contrary, we will not be forgiven.
- Let's take the example of forgiveness.
- What happens if I do not forgive others when they have done me wrong? [Matthew 6:14-15](#).
- Is it wrong for me not to forgive others? Yes, it is terribly wrong.
- What happens if I continue not to forgive others instead of repenting from it?
- Then God will not forgive me and I will not enter into the Kingdom

## **Only One Gospel Leads to Life**

- Is it so important for me to enter into God's righteous Kingdom?
- Jesus offered only two paths for His people
- Read Matthew 7:13-23
- As a reminder, who is Jesus speaking these words?
- Jesus says to His people, "There is broad way that leads to destruction"
- The unrighteous; in the context:
- Those not living out the Beatitudes
- The angry, the adulterers, the liars, the hateful, the greedy, those improperly judging
- Why? They have not repented of their sins
- However, there is another way
- It is through a narrow gate; that way leads to life
- Who are on that way?
- The righteous!
- They have believed that JC is the Messiah; that the prophesied K has been inaugurated; by faith, they have repented of their sins!
- Salvation is the power of God whereby He enables me to stop sinning, and thereby enter the K of God
- That is good news!
- It is not good news that God provided a Savior FROM sin, yet His people REMAIN in their sins
- The good news is that we have been delivered from the power of sin so we may live righteous life
- God's people that believe this on the narrow road
- At their resurrection, they will inherit the blessings of the K of God
- God's people that do not believe this: at their resurrection, they will face judgement
- **False Teachers, False Gospels**
- Note that Jesus warns disciples about false teachers
- Read Matthew 7:15-20
- There have always been false teachers proclaiming false "gospels"
- Their lives and their messages don't lead God's people in the way of righteousness
- Their counterfeit "gospels" are not good news
- In fact, their false teaching leads people to destruction
- "I have been declared righteous"
  - Scriptures: we must be righteous
- "God loves me in spite of my sin"
  - Scriptures: "May it never be!"

- "Will you spend eternity in Heaven?"
  - Scriptures: "Will you enter the Kingdom"
- "Heaven when you die"
  - Scriptures: "Death, Resurrection, Judgment Seat of Christ"

## **Will of the Father**

- In response to these false teachers, Jesus makes it clear that there is only one option for His people
- Read Matthew 7:21-23
- There is only one way to enter the K of God
- Doing the will of the Father: context: righteousness
- Believing Jesus to be the Messiah; believing His kingdom has been inaugurated
- Therefore, I do the will of the Father
- I repent of sin of my sin.
- I do the good; I avoid the evil.
- Therefore, I become righteous by the power of God
- I enter the Kingdom
- The broad way may be filled with lots of "Christian activity"
- People doing many things in "Jesus name"
- God who sees all, see lawlessness instead of righteousness
- At their resurrection, will not inherit the Kingdom
- There is only one Gospel that leads to life
- There is no Plan B, C, or D

## **Wise or Foolish?**

- Read Matthew 7:21-28
- The wise man: hears and acts
- The foolish: hear and don't act
- Jesus said: Narrow way, few find it
- Each succeeding generation, fewer will find it
- I pray that there will be some here today who are the few