

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW; YOUR KINGDOM COME...ON EARTH

Week 11- JROC – Sermon on the Mount

May 1, 2022

Matt. 5:1-2 - *And seeing* (to see with the eyes, with the mind, to perceive, to know, to take heed of, to care for) *the multitudes, He went up on a mountain* (raised up topography; elevated area), *and when He was seated His disciples came to Him.* ² *Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: Blessed....* Jesus saw the multitudes. I don't believe that Jesus went up on a mountain to get away from the multitudes. Jesus knew their needs. I'm suggesting that Jesus looked for a vantage point up on the mountain – to sit...as a rabbi would sit and teach – to be heard. Yes, the disciples came to Him as well – to listen...to be taught.

How do we know that Jesus taught the multitudes as well as the disciples?

Matt. 7:28-29 - *And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹ for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*

...*He went up on a mountain* – Jesus ascended to an elevated place in this area. It has been suggested that this particular *plateau* forms a natural amphitheater that could easily accommodate masses of people. The acoustics are such that a single person without the aid of modern-day amplification could easily address such a massive crowd and be heard and seen.

“He saw the multitudes” – He took heed of them – He cared for them - Jesus was sorrowful for their sorrow!

The Jewish people were oppressed by the Roman rule.

The Jewish people were burdened by the heavy yoke that their religious leadership was placing upon them.

Yoke: how the Jewish religious leadership interpreted the 613 commandments of God.

Among Evangelicals there has been much difference of UNDERSTANDING re: this sermon which has been called the Sermon on the Mount.

Scripture does NOT label this sermon as “the Sermon on the Mount.” It’s a manmade label. BUT Jesus indeed taught the people and we need to understand the CONTEXT of Jesus’ words!

WHAT LED UP TO THIS MESSAGE FROM JESUS?

Matt. 4:23 ...*Jesus went about all Galilee* (Jews and Gentiles lived in the Galilee of the Gentiles), *teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom* (the good news of the kingdom of God that God had promised to the Jewish people).

Gen. 49:10 - Judah would be the kingly tribe.

Ex. 19:6 - You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Num. 24:17 - Balaam prophesied that the glory of God {a Star – a blazing} would come out of Jacob/Israel and He would be King {Balaam speaks of His scepter – an ornamented staff that symbolizes SOVEREIGNTY – a King has a scepter; Balaam speaks of this occurring in the future.

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Deut. 17:14-15 – when you come into the land I’ve promised you, you shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God chooses; *one* from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who *is* not your brother; II Sam. 7:16 - And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.

Luke 1:31-33 - behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.””) *and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.* (Isa. 35:5-6 speaks of when the MESSIAH is on earth He will heal - ...the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue

of the dumb sing. JESUS HEALING THE MULTITUDES AUTHENTICATED WHO HE IS – THE MESSIAH!!

24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed (there will be no unclean spirits in the Messianic Kingdom – Zech. 13:2), epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. 25 Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

Jesus had been PROCLAIMING to the multitudes WHO HE IS – the MESSIAH – the KING!

Psa. 2 – The Messiah is the God the Son...He is GOD – Who WILL sit on His throne in Jerusalem – in the future. *Why do the nations rage...and the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, ...⁶ “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.” ⁷ “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me (the Messiah), ‘You are My Son, ...v. 12 - Kiss the Son (honor the Son, bow before the Son), lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little (John 5:22 – the Father has committed judgment to the Son of God). Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.*

The backdrop – the Kingdom of God in the OT!!!!

We need to keep in mind that this sermon/this message came BEFORE the birth of the Church!

Matthew’s theme is to present Jesus as the King of the Kingdom of heaven...Jesus offers Himself as the King of the Kingdom that God had promised the Jewish people since Genesis...

...And, Jesus is continuing to offer the Kingdom of God to the people through this sermon.

Through this message I believe that Jesus told the Jewish people what living in the future Kingdom of heaven/of God...the kingdom He would establish if they accepted Him as their King - would look like.

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Jesus taught them how to ENTER the Kingdom of heaven/of God where He would be KING. The Kingdom of God is a physical place. God had promised the Jewish people physical land with boundaries notes in Gen. 15:18-20.

With comprehending the CONTEXT, in this sermon Jesus addressed God's INTENTION in giving the Jewish people the Mosaic law. They needed to see God's heart. But, they were living by the letter of the law which is what they were hearing from the Jewish religious leadership. Jesus taught the spirit of the law by explaining God's intention in giving the Jewish people the law...which was to highlight God's HOLINESS and man's SINFULNESS – their bankrupt condition and mourning their bankrupt condition. The law's demands were humanly impossible. The law closes off every possible avenue of human merit and leaves sinners totally dependent on God's grace!

Jesus' words in Matt. 7:21 stung! *Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall ENTER the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*

John 6:28-29 – *'What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?' 29 Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.'*