

### **Sermon on Mount:**

- King & His Kingdom are here → available for those who come and are committed to learning from Jesus
  - Blessed
  - Salt & Light
- Process of becoming
- Need “rules, signs” to know & flourish
  - Guidelines & Guardrails

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus unveils a **vision** us to become who we were always and eternally **meant to be**.

How do we become our true & best self?

### **Matthew 5:17**

Don't think that I came to abolish **the Law or the Prophets**. I did not come to abolish but to **fulfill**.

Jesus' Kingdom: **continuity** with and the **continual** significance of the Law

- Certain dimensions of the Law are like **scaffolding**
  - Israel-focused/limited
  - Temporary arrangement until Jesus

### **Matthew 5:18**

For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are **accomplished**.

- The **moral** dimension of the Law (~10 Commandments): ongoing **rule of life in the Kingdom**

### **Matthew 5:19**

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called **least** in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called **great** in the kingdom of heaven.

The Law is **NOT a requirement** to get in (*Blessed are the poor in spirit ...*) ...

- The Kingdom is where we are designed, redeemed & restored to live & flourish

The Law is **NOT a requirement** to get in ... but our **response** to the Law is a **reflection** of who our k/King really is.

- We enter the Kingdom **through Jesus** Who fulfills all the Law
- Through Jesus, we see the Law as the way to **know and love** God for Who He is and to become our **best selves**.

Can I get a tattoo?

What about swearing/bad words?

Answer to both questions: **Devotion to Jesus**

Our view of the **Law** is connected to our view of **God**:

- A really loving & good God would not burden us with rules
- A conditional God: *If I ... then God.*

Both views (~mind-sets) assume any commands given to us by God are evidence that He is unwilling or reluctant to bless us = **Lie of satan**.

### **Exodus 20:1-3**

Then God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup> **I am the Lord your God**, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery. <sup>3</sup> Do not have other gods besides Me ...

To walk by Kingdom **principles**, we must have Kingdom **perspective** and Kingdom **power**.

The powerful, amazing grace & goodness of God → **fuel** to walk the **path** of His commands and **enjoy the blessing** of His Kingdom forever

**Affections, Desires & Devotions (~Jesus) + God's Will for us (~Law) = Friends within us**  
**Psalms 119:111 (NIV)**

I have **Your decrees** as a **heritage forever**; indeed, they are the **joy** of my heart.

### **Psalms 119:2 (HCSB)**

**Happy** are those who keep His **decrees** and seek Him with **all their heart**.

### **Matthew 5:20**

For I tell you, unless your righteousness **surpasses** that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will **never** get into the kingdom of heaven.

**Scribes & Pharisees vs. Kingdom Righteousness**

- Ceremonial                REAL
- External                 SPIRITUAL
- Skin deep                HEART

**Settled (S) or Unsettled (U) ...?**

- Heart view of God ...?
- View of His commands ...?
- God's will for your life ...?