

SOTM 2 - Called To Mourn As Children Of God

Sermon On The Mount Review

1. Listen to the first message – Introduction. Jude – False teachers have crept in unaware.
2. Many say the sermon on the mount does not apply to Christians today.
Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.
3. **Luke 16:16 The law and the prophets *were* until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.**
4. It is in the Sermon On The Mount where Jesus warns those who are "hearers only."
Matthew 7:24-27 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: (25) And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. (26) And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: (27) And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.
5. "THEREFORE" refers to the previous verses: **Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**
6. So how serious is the danger from false prophets? Eternity is at stake. Anyone who tells you that the sermon on the mount does not apply to you is a false prophet.
7. If you try to understand the Sermon On The Mount from the perspective of a lost sinner trying to measure up to a legalistic standard, you are doomed to failure. The Sermon On The Mount is for children of God only. It is a higher standard than the Mosaic law. Unregenerate men could not even measure up to the Mosaic Law, much less the much higher standards of the Kingdom of God.
8. Regarding the Mosaic Law, there was none righteous ... no not one. Without Christ in you (the new nature), there is zero possibility of you walking according to the instruction of the Sermon On The Mount. Christ made the new birth possible through extreme agony for the express purpose of empowering you with His own nature in

order to set you free from sin so you could walk in the fullness of the instructions given in the Sermon On The Mount.

9. As you read the Sermon On The Mount, you must constantly remember ... I am a child of God. I have the nature of Christ. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I am not trying to become this. I already am this. This is the power of the gospel. I am a new creature, recreated in the image of Christ. I am not who I used to be. I am a child of God, empowered by God to walk like this. As He is, so am I, in this world.

Today's Message

Mat 5:1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

1. God came down on Mount Sinai to give the Law to Moses.
2. Jesus went up the mountain to teach the principles of the kingdom of God.
3. God appeared in terrifying smoke, fire, thunder on Mt. Sinai.
4. Jesus appears as a man among them, and sits down to teach them.
5. On Mt Sinai ... keep your distance. On this mount, draw near and listen.
6. On Mt Sinai ... the people heard God through Moses. On this mount, the people can hear God through Jesus directly for themselves. Every believer has access to the mind of Christ.
7. Disciples G3101 – mathetes - From G3129; a *learner*, that is, *pupil*: - disciple.
8. Not necessarily "mature" disciples. Jesus said those that were "perfect" (mature) would be "as their master." **Luke 6:40 The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.**
9. Many would start off as learning disciples, but would never reach maturity. **John 6:66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.** (There will be many in the 30 and 60 fold camp. That last 40% is tough.
10. Conclusion ... the sermon on the mount is for anybody who desires to be a disciple. It was primarily directed to His immediate disciples, but it was spoken in the hearing of all the people. We know that because: **Matthew 7:28-29 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: (29) For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.**

Mat 5:2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

1. **Heb 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, (2) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;**
2. The only way to make sense of the sermon on the mount is with the understanding that you have just arrived on planet earth as ambassadors for the kingdom of heaven. You are being given instructions by Jesus as children of light before you are sent into the darkness of the world. You are on temporary assignment. It is as if you are in the military to accomplish the mission of manifesting the kingdom of God on earth. You are not of the world and you cannot think like the world. Your assignment is from the Lord Jesus Christ and you are to remain laser focused on the mission he gives you. You are like the "special forces" who do not go forth to gain personal wealth or to achieve "happiness." You go forth to accomplish your assignment in the kingdom of God. When God's kingdom prevails, you are happy and blessed ... no matter if you are penniless, exhausted, covered with mud, and nursing wounds inflicted by the enemy. You are blessed because the kingdom of God is being manifested through your obedience.

Mat 5:3 Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

1. Happiness for the world is wealth, fame, and pleasure. The apostle John warned us to love not the world.
1 John 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.
2. We are to be poor in spirit the same way a soldier in the army is poor in spirit. A good soldier has surrendered his will to his commanding officer. He is not trying to be the one in charge. A good soldier receives his orders to "charge the hill," salutes smartly and "charges the hill." In combat, the soldier owns nothing. Even his food, clothes, and weapons are supplied by the army, not himself.

2Co 6:10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

On the battlefield he owns nothing, yet ... backing him up are all the resources of the military to help him accomplish his assignment. Ground troops can call in an air strike if needed. Jesus said he could ask his Father for legions of angels and they would be sent if He asked.

Mat 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Jesus did not ask because self-preservation was not the goal. The cross was the goal for Him. The mission came first, even before the preservation of His own life. Jesus is saying, as children of light, we are blessed if we maintain the mindset that we are soldiers in the kingdom of God, receiving and acting on our orders from the Lord. All the resources of heaven are at our disposal. Ours is the kingdom of heaven as long as we remember who we are, where we are from, and why we are here. Resist pride at all costs. Remember ... without Him ... we can do nothing.

Mat 5:40 Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

1. The apostle James uses this same Greek word translated "mourn" to describe the proper attitude of repentance if the church becomes too much like the world.

James 4:4-10 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. (5) Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? (6) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. (7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (8) Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. (9) Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. (10) Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

A case in point is the Rich Man and Lazarus. The rich man was physically born of Abraham, but he lived in willful violation of the covenant. He gave his life to the good things of this world, not to the things of the kingdom of God. He loved fortune, fine food and wine, and cared nothing for the beggar Lazarus who was laid

at his gate. He wound up in HELL! This is not a parable. Jesus gave us the name of the beggar. There is a real HELL to shun and a real HEAVEN to gain. The rich man lived for the world and he wound up in hell. He lived in pleasure, riches, laughter, and "happiness" as the world defines it. Jesus uses the same Greek word for "comforted" in that story as he does here in the Beatitudes.

Luke 16:25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

Jesus is saying, don't seek happiness the world's way. Mourn now for the fallen state of the world. Don't live for comforts of this world now. Live for the kingdom now, and you will be comforted for all eternity.

One thing the Holy Spirit said to me years ago: *"I will not hold you accountable for all the poor of the world. But I will hold you accountable for every Lazarus I lay at your gate."* The Holy Spirit lets you know who those are. And sometimes ... you might be really surprised who they are ... because they do not always "appear" to be poor. They might live in a bigger house and drive a better car than you. Listen to the Holy Spirit and obey Him.

2. Mourning when we sin. As new creatures about to be sent as light into darkness, there should be no more consciousness of sin. Of course your conscience will convict you if you sin, but that should be extremely rare for the mature Christian. If you are constantly mourning because of habitual sin, repent and the Lord will forgive you, and cleanse you from all unrighteousness. Jesus did not mourn because He was sinning and we should not either because ... we have been made free from sin.
3. Do you want to know what this mourning is? You already experience it more than you know. Every time you see an innocent child dying of cancer or some other damnable disease, your spirit mourns. Just watching a thirty minute news program that tells of the murders, rapes, thefts, and so forth is enough to put your righteous spirit into mourning. This world is not our home. If we feel happy and comfortable living in this darkness, we have backslidden terribly from heaven's perspective. We are children of light and we mourn while living in this darkness.

Do you mourn for the fallen condition of the United States? Even more serious, do you mourn for the fallen state of the church in America? This kind of mourning drives us to our knees to pray and to make intercession for the church and for the

nation. Look at the example of how Moses mourned over the fallen state of Israel and how he made intercession for them. As Moses made intercession for Israel when they made the golden calf, as Paul was willing to suffer eternal damnation if his kinsmen, the Jews, could be saved, and as Jesus prayed, "Forgive them for they know not what they do." Jesus took the penalty of the whole world upon Himself to make it possible for them to be saved.

Let us mourn for our own shortcomings, and let us mourn over the state of this fallen world. Our goal as children of God is not happiness in this fallen world. Our goal is to manifest the kingdom of light while we live in the darkness of this world.

4. This word "mourn" is the same Greek word Jesus used when He said,

Mat 9:15 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast.

We mourn because the bridegroom, Jesus, is not physically with us during this dispensation. This mourning causes us to consistently impose mortification on the flesh. One way our mourning is demonstrated is that we are willing to fast so that our fallen flesh does not dominate us as we serve the kingdom while on earth. We mourn while we long for a new heaven and a new earth where we shall surely be comforted. Thank God for a new earth where righteousness dwells. Remember, the next world will not be like this world.

Revelation 21:1-4 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (2) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (3) And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. (4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.