

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast

S7E1

What Is the Sermon on the Mount? - Matthew 5:1-2

Description – Welcome to the Sermon on the Mount. Today we begin by looking at some of the background information on Matthew 5-7.

Welcome to Season 7!

We get to jump into one of the greatest sections of scripture in the New Testament this season. The Sermon On The Mount, Matthew chapters 5, 6, & 7.

CSB Harmony of the Gospels

(Section 54 - The Sermon On The Mount)

<https://www.amazon.com/CSB-Harmony-Gospels-Steven-Cox/dp/1087768462/>

But before we get there, you know we'll have to do some background work to prepare.

People often ask, was this one big sermon that Jesus delivered, or was this little sermons that he preached throughout his teaching ministry.

It was probably a both-and. Jesus taught this in one sitting here in Matthew; but he also has themes from it all throughout his 3 year ministry. Luke shares it in his Gospel spread out across the ministry of Jesus. Jesus has one driving theme, one topic: The Kingdom of Heaven / Kingdom of God.

The sermon on the mount is a demonstration of what Kingdom living is, what it should look like.

Remember, this Sermon on the Mount is not about things we have to do in order to earn our salvation, or to earn favor with God.

What you have to ask is duty or devotion? Legalism or Love? What you have to consider is the perspective you're taking. If you're working out of wanting something back or expectation, then it's duty / legalism.

Jesus warns us against this in **Matthew 6:1**

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven.

Jesus has to be your treasure. You don't follow Him because of what He can give you. If you seek Him for who He is, then there are benefits that you gain.

The sermon on the mount is an invitation and an expectation. It's an invitation into a certain lifestyle, and an expectation of how to live in the Kingdom. The house has rules. If you live under the roof of the king there are blessings from living there.

Jesus is demonstrating the kind of character of a believer / kingdom citizen on earth that produces the maximum amount of human flourishing.

The beatitudes and Jesus's teachings are more about how to live day to day, a lifestyle to emulate. They're not about some future kingdom that God will establish one day, they're for living in the kingdom of God here and now.

The sermon on the mount is Jesus's teaching for how to live in the kingdom, the kingdom ethic, in the here and now. How to flourish in the kingdom and in your life today, how to be blessed, happy and flourishing today.

When you live this way, you will flourish.

When you're part of the kingdom, part of the Monarchy, the people that live under that King, under the kingdom, are called "subjects."

You have a choice living as a subject of the King, you can live outside of the kingdom, outside the bounds and protections of the kingdom, or you can live under the king and kingdom. You are still a citizen of the kingdom if you are somewhere else geographically, but you may not be experiencing the blessings and benefits of living in the kingdom.

Luke 6:17-20

¹⁷ After coming down with them, he stood on a level place with a large crowd of his disciples and a great number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those tormented by unclean spirits were made well. ¹⁹ The whole crowd was trying to touch him, because power was coming out from him and healing them all. ²⁰ Then looking up at his disciples, he said: Blessed are you who are poor, because the kingdom of God is yours.

Matthew 5:1-2

When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to teach them, saying:

Jesus is speaking to the disciples. The crowds are there, no doubt, and are hearing what Jesus is teaching, but Jesus is primarily speaking to the disciples.

In our CSB Harmony of the Gospels: Section 54 - The Sermon On The Mount

But what was section 53? The 12 Apostles. Where Jesus spent all night in Prayer and then called the 12 to be Apostles (Mark 3, Luke 6).

Mark and Luke have this calling of the Apostles right before the sermon on the mount.

We'll pick up here next week.