

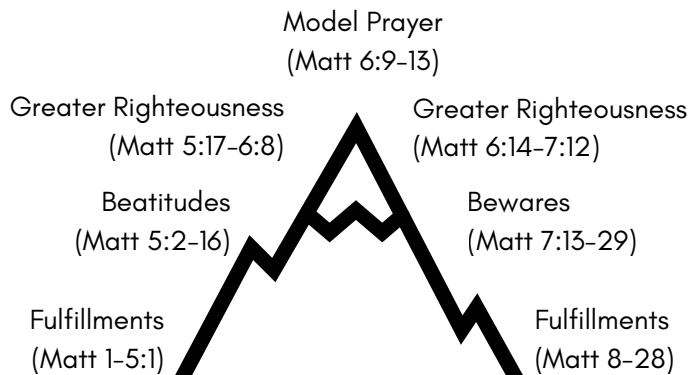
WEEK THREE

Law *and* Love



NOTES:

1. Structure of The Sermon within Matthew



The structure of The Sermon on the Mount is like a mountain. Before we ascend the mountain, you have all these fulfillment statements (Matt 1-5:1). This will also help us understand the word fulfill later in this text. Jesus then ascends the mountain and gives the introduction to The Sermon as a whole (The Beatitudes). After this, Jesus then gives the introduction to the body of The Sermon (The Greater Righteousness for God's New Covenant People). He then ascends and descends the mountain of greater righteousness which concludes with the Golden Rule. He then concludes The Sermon by talking about giving what I call The Bewares. Here he talks about the two ways, the two fruit, the two livestock, and the two foundations. At the peak of The Sermon is the Lord's Model Prayer.

2. Law

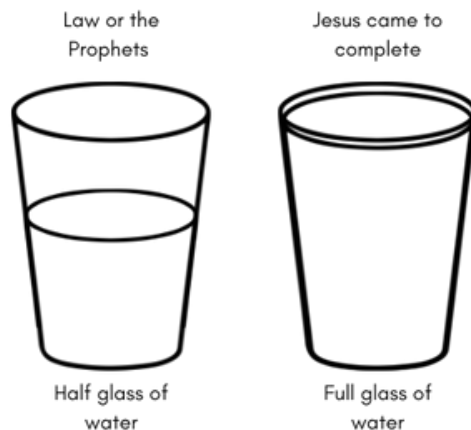
Matthew 5:17

[17] "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. (ESV)"

- Jesus emphatically declares that he did not come to _____ the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill it.
- Jesus came to fulfill or to _____ what God has already started in the Old Testament.

"Rejection of God's former saving work and covenant was not Jesus's view."
-Jonathan Pennington

- Jesus came to destroy the works of the _____ (1 John 3:8), not the Law or the Prophets. He came to bring them to their fullness.
- Jesus came to complete the will of God, namely to institute a New Covenant where God "will put his law within us and write his law on our _____" (Jer 31:33).



NOTES:

Matthew 5:18

[18] For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. (ESV)

- This is the _____ time that we see the “I say to you” phrase—something we are going to see a lot in the following verses.
- He says, “Until heaven and earth pass away,” or “Until the _____ elements in the world pass away, the _____ elements in the law will not pass away.”

Matthew 5:19

[19] Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (ESV)

- Notice the play on words. Whoever relaxes one of the _____ of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called _____ in the kingdom of heaven.
- Jesus is after a _____ righteousness—a whole person righteousness that comes from the heart.

Matthew 5:20

[20] For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. (ESV)

- Jesus wants us to listen to the scribes and Pharisees. They preach! But he does not want us to be like them. They don't _____.
- Jesus wants our righteousness to _____ their half-righteousness.



Jeremiah prophesied the New Covenant.

Jeremiah 31:31-33

[31] “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, [32] not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. [33] For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (ESV)



This is statement number one.

NOTES:

Matthew 5:21-47

Anger

[21] “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ [22] But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. [23] So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, [24] leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. [25] Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. [26] Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Lust

[27] “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ [28] But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. [29] If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. [30] And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

Divorce

[31] “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ [32] But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

NOTES:

Oaths

[33] “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’

[34] But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, [35] or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. [36] And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. [37] Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

Retaliation

[38] “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ [39] But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. [40] And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. [41] And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. [42] Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

Love Your Enemies

[43] “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ [44] But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45] so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. [46] For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? [47] And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? (ESV)

- In these passages we have seen a collection of things. However, one thing they all share is their origin in the _____.

NOTES:

Matthew 5:48

***[48] You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
(ESV)***



Thesis statement number two.

- Jesus is not telling us that we need to be morally perfect holy. He is telling us that we need to be _____ holy.
- They should be _____ as their Father is _____.

HOMEWORK:
ANSWER THE REFLECTION
QUESTIONS BELOW.

Go to your class reading plan on page 4. Read the assigned Scriptures and write any observations below.

Look at the two thesis statements in Matthew 5:20, 48. What does it mean to have a righteousness that is greater than the scribes and Pharisees? What does it mean to be perfect (or complete) as our heavenly Father is complete? Did you have a different understanding of these verses before this session?

- **Seminary+ students, read *An Introduction to Biblical Ethics* - Chapter 3: The Relevancy of the Law**

One of the best ways to retain what you're learning is to tell it to someone else. Share with someone what you are learning in this class. Also, make sure that you continue reading your Bible throughout this class. Let this supplement your time in the Word, not replace it. For a plan and help go to C3Rowlett.com/resources. See you next week! GITKOG&BF.