

Sermon on the Mount

– 7 –

Break the Trumpets

- We live in a world where people often seek recognition for their good deeds.
- Jesus has been warning us about external righteousness with no care for a righteousness in our hearts.
- He begins warning His disciples against hypocrisy.

Matthew 6:1 (ESV) “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

- Remember: Matthew 5:16 let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
- Public acts of obedience are valuable and honorable, but if they are done merely for the sake of public recognition, there will be no reward from God.

Matthew 6:2 (ESV) “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

- Hypocrites – Greek actors who wore different masks to play different roles.

- Their hypocrisy so outrageous that it would be like someone blowing a trumpet every time they did something good.
- Acts 5:1-11 Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, sold a piece of property and pretended to give all the proceeds to the apostles, but secretly kept back a portion for themselves.

Matthew 6:3-4 (ESV) 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

- Your reward is given in a place they don't see.
- Your heart is making a noise Luke 6:45 “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”
- Psalm 19:14 – “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.”

Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV) 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.