AN UNCOMMON GREATNESS

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

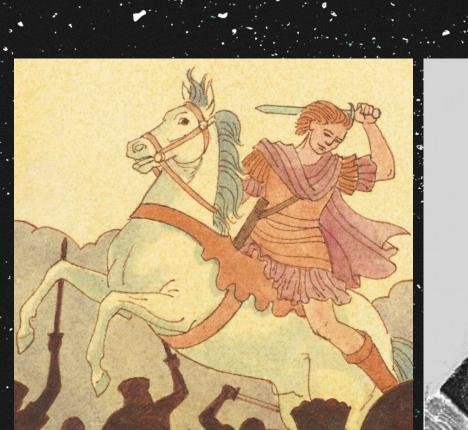


Alexander the Great



Alexander the Great Herod the Great





Alexander the Great





Herod the Great

Genghis Khan

Matthew 4:17

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is

at hand."

37 times in the Matthew, Jesus points people to the Kingdom of Heaven or Kingdom of God.

5 times in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus points us to the **Kingdom of Heaven**.

Matthew 5:3&10

- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the **kingdom of heaven**."

John 18:36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world..."

Matthew 6:33

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Be-Attitude Structure: Blessing Attitude Promise

Exodus 20-24 10 Commandments Law was established

Matthew 5-7
8 Beatitudes
Law is fulfilled

First 5 Commandments Relation with God

5

First 4 Beatitudes Relation with God First 5 CommandmentsRelation with GodFSecond 5 CommandmentsSRelating to othersF

5.

First 4 Beatitudes Relation with God Second 4 Beatitudes Relating to others

LIFE PRINCIPLE

Greatness comes from the INSIDE out.

Crowds are good. Disciples are GREAT.

Proverbs 15:33

Honor comes before humility.

Four Actions of a Great Person

1) Mercy giver

Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

GRACE = getting what you don't deserve **MERCY =** NOT getting what you DO deserve

We live in a SHAME & CANCEL culture, not a MERCY & GRACE culture.

LIFE PRINCIPLE

You can't be a mercy taker unless you are first a mercy giver.

Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

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Greg Blomberg

"Mercy may be God's most fundamental attribute."

Exodus 34:6

"...The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in loving-kindness and truth."

Matthew 6:15

"But if you do not **forgive** others, then your Father will not **forgive** your transgressions."

LIFE PRINCIPLE

ForGIVEness is never earned, it is always given.

...you were dead in the trespasses and sins... ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy... made us alive together with Christ.

-Ephesians 2:1,4-5

...he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the –Hebrews 2:17

...he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

-Titus 3:5

Four Actions of a Great Person

Mercy giver Purity of heart

1 Peter 1:16

...since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Matthew 23:25

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence."

Psalm 24:3-4

Who may go up on the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy Temple? Only those with clean hands and **pure hearts**....

Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Matthew 5:8

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Two things I have learned about my sin:

1) I need to be in it to win it.

Galatians 5:17

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are **opposed** to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

• Two things I have learned about my sin and sinful nature:

1) I need to be in it to win it. 2) I need to keep a short list with God.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Four Actions of a Great Person

Mercy giver Purity of heart Peace-maker with others

Ephesianss 2:14

He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall.

LIFE PRINCIPLE

Your relation to God is validated by our willingness to reconcile with others.

Matthew 5:9

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

Four Actions of a Great Person

Mercy giver Purity of heart Peace-maker with others Persevere persecution

Matthew 5:10

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

FACT

Last year **5,621** known believers were killed for their faith in Jesus.

www.opendoors.org

FACT

There have been more people martyred for their faith **since the 19th Century** than in all the previous centuries combined.

2 Timothy 3:12

Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Luke 6:28

Jesus said, "Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

Matthew 5:11-12

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

What makes a person great? Be as Jesus is and do as Jesus does.