

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 5-7

# THE KINGDOM:

- ▶ Character of the “Blessed”
- ▶ Influence of the light/salt
- ▶ Unless your righteousness...
- ▶ Be holy as I am holy...
- ▶ **WHEN:** Alms, prayer, fasting

# Forgiveness (14,15)

- ▶ **“For...” continuation of the prayer**
- ▶ **Without this, it is all lost!!!**
- ▶ **As we are forgiven we must...**
- ▶ **Reconciliation in prayer.. enemies!**
- ▶ **There is no loop hole here...**

# The Answer is Jesus!

The answer to peace is Christ Jesus. "He is our peace"—the only possible peace between two persons... (Eph. 2:14-18).

- 1) He can make both one
- 2) He can break down the wall between both.
- 3) He can abolish the enmity—in His own flesh.
- 4) He can make the two into one new man.
- 5) He can reconcile both to God, one body, by the cross.
- 6) He can give peace, bring peace between both.
- 7) He can give both access to God the Father.


# Lifestyle and love

- ▶ **Fasting – Pharisees 2x week**
  - ▶ **NOT about ‘sacrificing’, denial**
  - ▶ **“in order to be seen”**
  - ▶ **Gloomy, tragic, exaggerated...**
  - ▶ **‘reward’ in full? Or lost?**

# When you fast...

- Anoint your head, wash your face...
- Not seen by men, but still among them
- Your Father sees the “secret”
- Matt 9:15 we will! Humble yourself!
- PS 35:13; Isa 58:3-5; Zech 8:18ff

# Fasting facts

- ▶ **Jesus, Moses, Esther, Daniel, JB, Elijah**
    - ▶ **Weakening the self, denying its rule**
    - ▶ **Discipline of our lives to focus on God**
    - ▶ **Tech, entertainment, shopping... time**
    - ▶ **'crisis' fasts... all for His presence...**
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- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against the blue background.

# Key thoughts:

- ▶ **God is aware of our intent/motive**
- ▶ **Pharisees did it for men**
- ▶ **Desire, attitudes, focus...**
- ▶ **What makes fasting so hard?**
- ▶ **What “repayment” look like...**