

Countercultural Kingdom - Pt. 4 October 5, 2025

Bushawn Carpenter

- I. Intro
 - A. Opening Reading: Matt. 5:1-12
 - B. Recap
 - 1. The Culture of the Kingdom is derived from the character of our King.
 - a. Our King made Himself low.
 - b. Our King loved sacrificially.
 - c. Our King is Immanuel (God with us).
 - d. The culture of this Kingdom is derived from our King and cannot be established outside of Him.
 - 2. Our King established a Kingdom centered on real fellowship (with Him and with His people) in a way that is rooted in sacrificial love.
 - a. Go the 2nd mile. (**Matt. 5:41**)
 - b. Give up the shirt off our back (Matt. 5:40)
 - c. Turn the other cheek. (Matt. 5:39)
 - d. Love and pray for enemies (Matt. 5:44)
 - 3. In order to walk in this Kingdom Culture, it requires a Lifestyle of Prayer and Fasting.
 - a. When you pray... (Matt. 6:5-15)
 - b. When you fast... (Matt. 6:16-18)
- II. Body
 - A. Eternal Perspective (Matt. 6:19-34)
 - 1. Investment in Heaven (6:19-21)
 - 2. Material resources submit to God. (6:24)
 - 3. Genuine passion for the Kingdom (Matt. 6:19-21)
 - a. Not about the Kingdoms of this world (Matt. 6:25-34)
 - B. Corporate Commitment to Holiness (Matt. 7:1-20)
 - 1. Jesus-Like Judgment (**7:1-6**)
 - a. Stay with it (Matt. 7:7-12)
 - 2. This is the Narrow Way (**7:13-14**)
 - a. Non-Negotiable
 - b. Leads to life.

III. Conclusion (**Matt. 7:15-29**)

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which [are] by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (Phil 1:3-11)

- A. Jesus Promised Fruit Produced in Adversity (Matt. 7:15-23)
 - 1. The fruit of sacrificial love that is free of offense is the distinguishing factor.
 - a. Mark of Disciple: Loving Jesus so much that you "love the unlovable".
 - 2. <u>Narrow Way</u>: Trusting Jesus despite the winds of relational turmoil. (Matt. 7:13)
 - a. **Broad Way**: Inward distrust in Jesus, so that the winds of relational turmoil exposes lovelessness. (**Matt. 7:14**)
 - 3. <u>Knowing Jesus</u>: Proven fruit of sacrificial love that is without offense. (Matt. 7:21-23)
 - a. No Intimacy: Doing all the outward stuff, yet not loving Jesus enough to be conformed to His image.
- B. There's a coming storm. (Matt. 7:15, 24-29)
 - 1. Storm Characteristics
 - a. False prophets (v. 15)
 - b. Winds, rain, floods (v. 25, 27)
 - 2. Jesus' Promise: SOME Houses Will Withstand the Storm.
 - a. Built on the Rock.
 - b. Built on Sand
- C. What prepares us to pursue holiness together (in the face of the adversity of that day) is that we pursue holiness together in this day.
 - 1. Without offense.
 - a. Quick to forgive.
 - b. Longsuffering.
 - Generous to a fault.
 - a. Giving of our very lives to each other and for each other.