

# **Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount**

## **Matthew 4:23-5:2**

## Matthew 4:23 - 5:2

*And [Jesus] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.*

*Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them....*

# The Sermon on the Mount

**Homework:** read through Matthew chapters 5, 6, 7  
(every week)

- Jesus repeated many of these concepts throughout His public ministry
- Something of a summary of the many important teachings of Jesus

# Context - Never read a Bible Verse

Exodus - Pharaoh enslaves, baby boys to be killed

Moses

Pharaoh's grandson

left, returned, delivered the people (designated by God)

performed miracles, set the Hebrews free, crossed the Red Sea

went up Mount Sinai, received the law

brought the law to the people

# Context - Never read a Bible Verse

Exodus - Pharaoh enslaves, baby boys to be killed	Matthew – Herod orders boys under 2 to be killed
Moses	Jesus
Pharaoh's grandson	left, returned as the Deliverer (designated by God)
left, returned, delivered the people (designated by God)	baptized, tested in the wilderness
performed miracles, set the Hebrews free, crossed the Red Sea	performed miracles, healed the oppressed
went up Mount Sinai, received the law	went up on the mountain
brought the law to the people	taught the people

## **Jesus, the Prophet Moses Spoke of**

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

(Dt 18: 15-19 ESV)

# Purpose

**Moses**

**Commands of God**



**Establish character  
of the nation**



**World might recognize, trust,  
honour the God of Israel**

**Jesus**

**How we should live**



**Character of individuals  
and the church**



**We might serve  
as his NT priests**

**gospel of the kingdom (4:23)**

# Christian Character Sketch

Poor in spirit

mourn

meek

Persecuted for righteousness

Hunger thirst for righteousness

Peace-makers

Pure in heart

merciful



## **Invictus (W.E. Henley)**

Out of the night that covers me,  
    Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
    For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance  
    I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance  
    My head is bloody, but unbowed.

# Invictus

Beyond this place of wrath and tears  
    Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years  
    Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,  
    How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate,  
    I am the captain of my soul.

# **Invictus - not for the Believer**

It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,  
**I am the master of my fate,**  
**I am the captain of my soul.**



**I am NOT the master of my fate,**  
**I am NOT the captain of my soul**



**JESUS is captain**  
**JESUS is master**

# Christian Character

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet (5:13).

- Our faith is a private affair – not
- Private and corporate prayer is essential
- We need to get involved in the issues of the day
- If salt has lost its taste... rot must follow

# The Gospel of the Kingdom

Gospel → good news

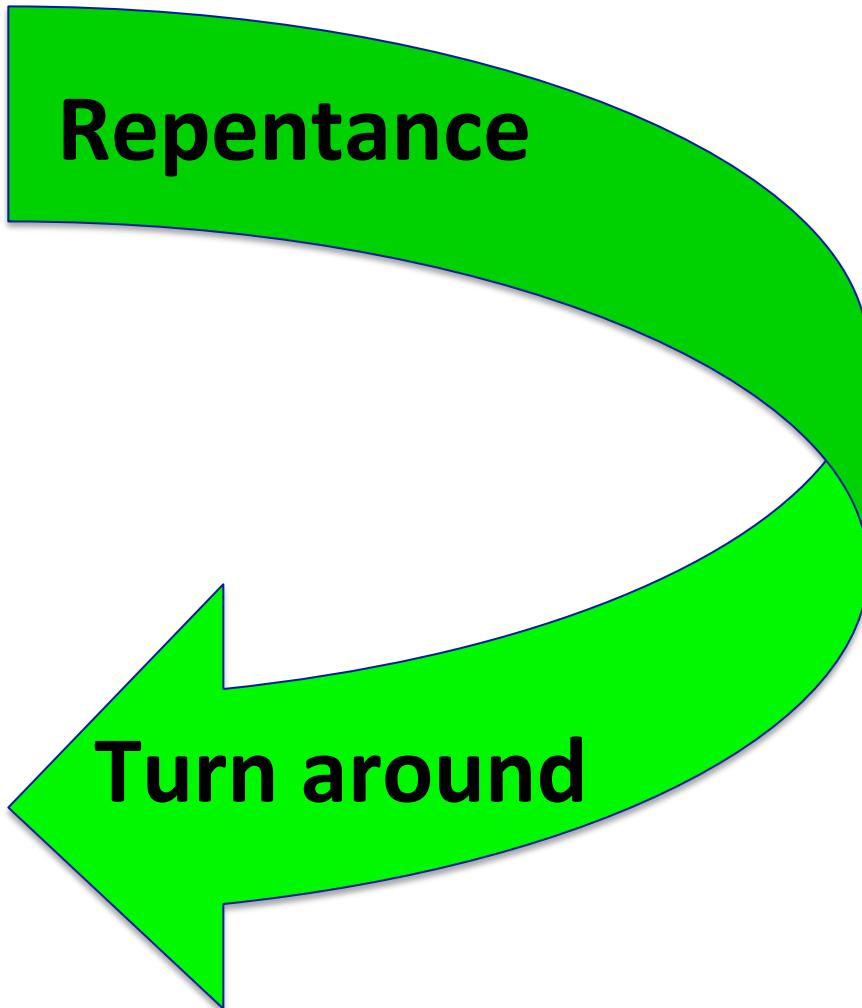
*“You have heard that it was said → But I say to you”*

Nobody can fully obey the law

**Repentance is needed**

*Beatitudes address complacency*

**“have you entered the kingdom of heaven?”**



*...by works of the law  
no human being will  
be justified in his  
sight, since through  
the law comes  
knowledge of sin....  
all have sinned and  
fall short of the glory  
of God.*

Ro 3:20-23 (ESV)

# **Blessed are...**

Blessed... nine (9) times...

Recipients of God's favour

Divine favour and delight...

Applause of heaven...

Present and future tenses...

## A Blessed Person...

**A blessed person is someone who, because of God's love and grace, enjoys in the present, and is promised in the future, God's favour regardless of one's personal status or earthly condition.**

**God's favour and grace is available to those who will repent and follow Jesus.**

# In Conclusion...

## Moses...

- skin of his face shone b/c he had been talking with God
- came down and led his people to the promised land

## Jesus...

- came down from the mountain (Matt 8:1)
- we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14)
- is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature (Heb 1:3) who leads His people to the Kingdom of heaven

## In Closing...

**Let us study and listen with hope, awe, and amazement as we hear that we can have God's favour and enter the Kingdom of heaven.**