

INTRO. & CONCLUSION OF THE SERMON

I) Review

- Matthew shows that Jesus is _____ who has come to _____ by _____.
- Jesus is _____ as He is _____.
- The Sermon on the Mount should be read as _____.

II) The Introduction (5:3-16)

Note: A helpful outline for understanding the Sermon is on the following page.

1. Give some thought to this question as it's important. What does "blessed/happy" mean in this context? Is there a better translation? Consider Ps. 1:1; 2:12; Prov. 3:13; 8:32; Isa. 30:18; & 32:20.
2. What is the purpose of the beatitudes? Note that many draw from Isa. 32 & 61.
3. How would you categorize the beatitudes? The most meaningful way that I have seen considers three about humility, three about justice, and three about peace.
4. What does it mean that "the meek shall inherit the earth" (5:5)? Think back to our study of heaven this past summer.
5. How do salt and light connect to the beatitudes?

III) The Conclusion (7:13-27)

6. Referencing the outline on the next page, how many contrasts does Jesus offer in this section?
7. To me, the key to understanding each of these contrasts comes in 7:15-16. What central contrast is Jesus offering in each of these images?

IV) Outline of the Sermon

- I. Frame and Context: The Gospel of the Kingdom (4:23-25)
- II. Ascending and Sitting (5:1-2)
- III. The Sermon (5:3—7:27)
 - A. Introduction: The Call to God's New People (5:3-16)
 1. The Nine Beatitudes for the New People of God (5:3-12)
 2. The New Covenant Witness of the People of God (5:13-16)
 - B. The Body: The Greater Righteousness for God's People (5:17—7:12)
 1. Greater Righteousness (GR) to God's Laws (5:17-48)
 - a) Proposition (5:17-20)
 - b) Six Exegeses/Examples (5:21-47)
 - c) Summary (5:48)
 2. GR in Relation to Piety Toward God (6:1-21)
 - a) Introduction: Pleasing the Father in Heaven, not Humans (6:1)
 - b) Three Examples (6:2-18)
 - (1) Central Excursus on Prayer (6:7-15)
 - c) Conclusion: Rewards in Heaven, not on Earth (6:19-21)
 3. GR in Relation to the World (6:19—7:12)
 - a) Introduction (6:19-21)
 - b) In Relation to the Goods of This World (6:22-34)
 - c) In Relation to the People of This World (7:1-6)
 - d) Conclusion (7:7-12)
 - C. Conclusion: Three Warnings Regarding the Prospect of Eschatological Judgment (7:13-27)
 1. Two Kinds of Paths (7:13-14)
 2. Two Kinds of Prophets (7:15-23)
 3. Two Kinds of Builders (7:24-27)
- IV. Descending and Action (7:28-8:1)
- V. Frame and Context: The Gospel of the Kingdom (8:2—9:38)