

Hear Him!

Matthew 5:1-12

The KING Speaks (vv. 1-2)

- The gospel of Matthew is the gospel of the King.
- The theme of Matthew is: The Kingship of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus ascends a mountain.
- He ascends to give the manifesto of His kingdom.
- He sits as a king sits on his throne to proclaim his law.
- Or as a judge, one who interprets the law. (See Psalm 96:13)
- He teaches the His disciples. He teaches them the TRUTH.
- He is King of kings and Judge of all the Earth!

The Disciples Are Called to Listen

- His disciples are citizens of His kingdom. (Philippians 3:20)
- “to hear” means to listen and do.
- If one does not do what he has heard, he really has not heard!
- Consider some of Jesus’ (the King’s) warnings:
 - Our obedience is an indication of our love. (John 14:15)
 - Our love is measured by our obedience. (John 14:21, 23-24)
 - Our joy and abiding in His love is based on our obedience. (John 15:10-11)
- Jesus teaches, therefore, the disciple (true citizen of the kingdom) must learn what is expected of him.

THE MANIFESTO

- The longest of Christ’s teachings.
- “It may justly be called the key of the whole Bible, for here Christ opens the sum of the Old and New Testaments.”
- Jesus’ last spoken words were, “REPENT, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 4:17)
- Here, in the Sermon on the Mount, He expands His teaching on repentance. He tells us what repentance really is and what are the fruits of it.

The Manifesto’s Outline

The Introduction: The Beatitudes (5:1-12)

- “Blessed IS the one . . .” - The opposite: “Cursed IS the one . . .”
- “blessed” – “divine joy and perfect happiness”; “an inner satisfaction and sufficiency that does not depend on outward circumstances for happiness.”
- “Blessedness” is what the King offers to those who trust Him.



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“A Passion to Know Him and Make Him Known!”

• Characteristics (“tests”) and Benefits of True Citizens:

- ① **Characteristic:** “Poor in spirit.” – Conscience of our emptiness.
Benefit: Theirs is the kingdom of Heaven!
- ② **Characteristic:** “Mourns” – A strong word meaning mourning over the consciousness of sin. (See 2 Corinthians 7:10-11)
Benefit: They will be comforted! (1 John 2:1; 2 Cor. 1:1-7)
- ③ **Characteristic:** “Meek” – surrendered strength. (Psalm 25:9; 149:4)
Benefit: They will inherit the Earth. They will rule with Christ.
- ④ **Characteristic:** “Hunger for righteousness.” (Psalm 42:1; 63:1-5; Jer. 2:13)
Benefit: They will be filled (satisfied).
- ⑤ **Characteristic:** “Merciful” – (Psalm 103:8-12; Lam. 3:22-23; Prov. 14:21)
Benefit: They shall be called the children of God! (2 Cor. 1:3)
- ⑥ **Characteristic:** “Pure in heart” – (Psa. 24:3-4; 2 Tim. 2:22)
→ A new heart, an undivided heart. (Hebrews 12:14)
Benefit: They shall see God. To know and live in His presence.
- ⑦ **Characteristic:** “Peacemaker” – (Romans 12:18; Hebrews 12:14)
→ Without compromise of truth. (James 3:17)
Benefit: They shall be called the children of God.
- ⑧ **Characteristic:** “Suffers persecution” (John 15:20; Acts 14:22; 2 Tim. 3:12; Philippians 1:29; Romans 8:16-17; 1 Peter 4:12-19)
→ **NOTE:** The word “when” in verse 11.
Benefit: Theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. **GREAT** is their reward!

THE REACTION TO THE MANIFESTO (7:28-29)

- A Galilean peasant say with royal authority: “But *I* say unto you . . .”
- He calls Pharisees (religious leaders) *hypocrites*.
- He says that *He* will say to empty professors: “*I* never knew you: depart from *Me* you workers of evil.”
- He closed His manifesto by insisting that men’s eternal destiny would be regulated by how they complied with “these sayings of *Mine*.”
- Either this manifesto is a big joke or it is the most serious statement made in history. It can *only* be one or the other.
- The Person who spoke these words would *voluntarily* go to His death believing that these words were true.
- The people were *astonished* (amazed) at His doctrine (teaching) and His authority.
- Their reaction stopped at *astonishment* and never raised itself to *true repentance* or *bowing in worship* or *the pleading for mercy*.

What About Us? (Ezekiel 33:31-32)