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.

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

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.

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.