

Let It Shine

Recap/Intro

- Review last week
 - The mission of a rabbi was to become a living example of what it means to apply God's Word to one's life.
 - The task of the disciple was to become as much like the Rabbi as possible.
- Set the scene by reviewing 4:23-25
 - What kind of people were these? Where did they fit in society?
 - Keep that in mind and think about the impact His words would have on them.
 - Jesus in Rabbi mode

5:1-19

5:1-11

- 5:1-2 Picture a place like Thatcher Park, but with a view of the Sea of Galilee
- A word about stringing pearls. These are all refs to Psalms, Isaiah, times when God provided for His people. This audience would have known this.
- A word about **blessed**. Difference between being blessed and being happy. Happy is part of it, a result of being blessed.
- 5:3 **poor** or destitute **in spirit** - What is theirs? **Kingdom of heaven**. A spiritual problem requires a spiritual answer. We struggle when we try to apply a physical answer to a spiritual problem. Need to recognize both.
- 5:4 **mourn** - deepest mourning. Seeing things through kingdom eyes through the Holy Spirit gives comfort. (If you get talking about death, God doesn't reject ppl, ppl reject God.)
- 5:5 **meek** - doesn't equal week. Jesus refers to Himself as meek.
 - It refers to someone who doesn't take things into their own hands but leaves them in God's hands.
 - When someone has an injustice committed against them they don't seek revenge or act from their own strength. They let God deal with it.
 - Instead of getting back what they might on their own, they get the earth!
- 5:6 **starving and parched** - for righteousness, but who's and how? Just in general as in God's righteousness, or justice in life?
 - Remember the audience. In context it means justice in life, but the other is certainly true as well.
 - In either case, satisfaction comes. Fed to the full, used of animals and people. Ref to Exodus?
- 5:7 **merciful** - an adjective, describes a trait of someone, but this trait is demonstrated in action. **Mercy is not getting what one does deserve**. The next time you think someone doesn't deserve mercy, think about your positing in Jesus.
- 5:8 **pure** - one thing, nothing missing, nothing extra. Like God. When we act from a pure heart we will see/perceive God in our lives. Unclouded.
- 5:9 **peacemaker** - two words. One who makes something, and i-rene, peace, calm, comfort, no tension or stress between. "**love your neighbor...**"

- An attribute of God, His kids show His attributes.
- **Romans 12:16-21, 2 Cor. 5** as ambassadors.
- **5:10** When you are persecuted, make sure it isn't because you are being a jerk.
- **5:11** Jesus compares those who go through this with the prophets who went through this, who were cast to the side and walk on. Transition point.
- The point of these is - as the Lord has taken care of His people in the past so He will continue to do so today. Again, refs to OT things they would have know. Simply reminding people of God's faithfulness to those who live by His word, regardless of their circumstances.

5:13-16

- **5:13** What in the world? A figure of speech of the time about speech.
 - **Colossians 4:5-6, James 3:11-12.**
 - The point of this can be found in what comes before and after it.
 - The prophets spoke the words of the Lord and suffered for it, but they glorified God. **Don't be afraid of the consequences, God will take care of you either way** (fiery furnace), **don't lose or hide your salt.**
- **5:14-16**
 - Remember geographical context. Lake surrounded by hills with towns on them.
 - We are lamps lit with the fire of God burning the fuel of the Spirit in us. **Be being filled...**
 - For who to see? Don't show off for other believers or the world. Who gets the glory?

5:17-19

- **5:17 abolish and fulfill** - rabbinic expressions for mis-teaching and correctly teaching. Must have been rumors going around about Him and His teaching. As we will see, it is somewhat radical.
- **5:18** it's all important
- **5:19** bad teachers vs good teachers. Remember the point of a rabbi and disciple

The point

- The point in all of this is God's faithfulness to us as we live out His word.
 - **The mission of a rabbi was to become a living example of what it means to apply God's Word to one's life.**
 - **The task of the disciple was to become as much like the Rabbi as possible.**
- Jesus will get to the nitty gritty with a point we overlook. Don't just do the minimum, go above and beyond. Next time.
- How is your light? Is it even lit? Burning self out or burning with Spirit? Begins with Jesus and His word. Gospel.