

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### **THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

#### **'Behold your King' - 7**

#### **Matthew 5 v17 - 20**

Key Principle - As citizens of the kingdom of heaven / kingdom of God we are subject to the laws of the King - the Law of God. This means that living the life of the kingdom as a citizen of the kingdom will entail us in obeying the law of the kingdom.

Key Word - "righteousness". See - v6, v10 & 6 v1, v33.

Key Point - Living righteously in accordance with God's Law (the law of the King) will be the determining factor as to whether or not we will enter the kingdom of heaven.

Key Verse (a hard verse) - v20. Does this not discourage us when the Pharisees were able to say that they kept God's Law faultlessly? See - Phil 3 v6. In other words - 'What possible hope have I of ever getting into heaven?'

Key Question - What is Jesus saying here?

### **1. JESUS IS TALKING ABOUT FULFILLING THE LAW AND NOT ABOLISHING IT**

As Jesus preached the gospel of God, the Pharisees (and others) were asking - what about the Law of God? They thought that Jesus was wanting to do away with it. See - v17a.

Note - What Jesus continually underlined throughout His ministry....

#### **A. THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S LAW**

Think of Jesus repeatedly saying - "It is written....."

#### **B. THE PERMANENCY OF GOD'S LAW**

See - v18. It's not just that Jesus wasn't for abolishing God's Law - it's that He wasn't for changing it either.

Key Question - In what ways did Jesus fulfil God's Law? See - v17b. In at least 4 ways.....

**(i) By completing its teaching**

And by doing this both prophetically and doctrinally. See - Rom 10 v4

**(ii) By obeying its commandments**

See - 3 v13 - 15a

**(iii) By bearing its judgement**

See - Gal 3 v13

**(iv) By interpreting its meaning**

See - v21 - 48.

**2. JESUS IS TALKING ABOUT PRACTICING THE LAW  
AND NOT BREAKING IT**

See - v19a. Remember that the Pharisees believed that they kept God's Law faultlessly - they never broke it! Did they not? Yes, they didn't murder! But - v22. Yes, they didn't commit adultery! But - v28.

Key Point - The Pharisees' keeping of the Law of God was external and formal, whilst what Jesus is speaking about here is internal and spiritual. It's a thing of the heart! See - Jer 31 v33 & v19b - 20.

Key Point - Our striving to keep God's Law will never ever be a means to salvation, rather, it will be an evidence of salvation. We will strive to keep it in the knowledge that the Law Giver is good, kind and wise - and that His commandments are nothing but good for the soul! See - Ps 119 v97.