

Carl Thomas

Words From Above / Deuteronomy 8:11–14; Psalm 15:1–2; Psalm 37:26; Proverbs 21:3; Micah 6:8; Matthew 4–5; 1 Corinthians 1:18; Revelation 3:17

Mari zack

Together in the word

Sermon on the mount

Matt 5

1When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

2He opened His mouth and *began* to teach them, saying,

3"aBlessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11"Blessed are you when *people* insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

12"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

If we are going to be mature Christ followers we need to understand the Scriptures.

Character, influence, righteousness

Micah 6:8 (NASB95)

8He has told you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice, to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?

Do Justice Love Kindness Walk Humbly

This is what God has been looking for.

Do Justice – justice / righteousness same word.

Proverbs 21:3 (NASB95)

3To do righteousness and justice
Is desired by the Lord more than sacrifice.

Look at my sacrifice, looking for acts of justice.

Tyre Nichols – what can I do? Not big things, a series of little things that shape our lives and culture.

Off color jokes, sexism, abuse, exploitation. Our God requires us to say something about that.

Love Kindness

Psalm 37:26 (NASB95)

26All day long he is gracious and lends,
And his descendants are a blessing.

From being good to being kind.

Walk Humbly

Deuteronomy 8:11–14 (NASB95)

11“Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today;

12otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived *in them*,

13and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies,

14then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

That is a word for south Florida.

People get God’s blessing and start thinking they are something.

Word about prosperity.

Say Amen!

That is the backdrop of the ministry of Jesus.

Matthew 4 after Jesus was baptized taken by the Spirit in to the wilderness to be tempted.

You can only be tempted by things you want.

Identity, if you are the son of God turn stones into bread. – forfeit his prophetic destiny of being the suffering servant

Took him to the holy temple and told him to jump off. Tell his Father what to do in the temple.

Then he took him to a high mountain and said if you worship me, all these kingdoms will be yours.

If you got to betray God to get a blessing, it is a curse. If you have to sin to get ahead, you are falling behind. There are only shortcuts to destruction.

In his first Sermon he gives this sermon. Where? On the mountain. Jesus knew his destiny was the mountain high above everything. But he was not there to rule but to be a blessing.

American mindset this is a contract Jesus is making with us. If we do something, God will do something.

Jesus is teaching a Kingdom reality.

First he is talking to the people of his day who thought money equaled

favor with God.

The opposite.

He was carrying on the work of the prophets who came before him.

The writings of the prophet Amos. God condemns the practices of the wealthy in Israel who built up and hoarded wealth at the expense of the poor, and God shows compassion for the poor who are being oppressed.

Hosea

The people say, "I have certainly become rich, I have found wealth for myself; In all my labors they will find in me No wrongdoing, which *would be* sin."

Revelation 3:17 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

Despite its Christian profession it was not Christian at all. Self satisfied and superficial. They thought they were rich but they were blind beggars.

Christians are taking a beating in social media today by people who don't know Jesus or His church.

Do you know Jesus? Do you want to know Jesus?

The sermon on the mount is not a checklist to make sure you are doing the right things.

It's the foundation of Christian character. That starts with seeing ourselves correctly.

Last week Duke talked about how Satan uses offense and pride. Pride is what caused Satan to fall. We have to be on guard against it.

Psalm 15:1–2 (NASB95)

1 O Lord, who may abide in Your tent?

Who may dwell on Your holy hill?

2 He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness,

And speaks truth in his heart.

Pride is always manifested in how we compare ourselves to others. Jesus says get out of that comparison game. You never win.

Tyre Nichols

Instead of trying to be richer, more popular, more powerful

Strive to be more generous, more humble, more empowering

He started this whole man God thing with a promise to Abraham: You will be a blessing to all the nations of the world.

The poor was afflicted and unable to rescue himself from his troubles.

We have to be real and discover our spiritual poverty.

Prosperity is coming. But if you are going to keep it, you have to understand God's love for the poor. The hurting, the merciful, the peacemakers.

We follow a savior who made himself poor so we can become rich. Separated from God so we could be connected to God.

Makes no sense.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NASB95)

18For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.