

GOOD MORNING!

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (MAT. 5)

The believing remnant needed to realize that the glory of the Kingdom wasn't coming immediately but soon after a period of persecution and tribulation. (Mat. 5:10-12)

During this time they needed to appreciate that they are the Salt of the earth (Davidic Covenant) and Light of the World (Abrahamic and New Covenants). (Mat. 5:13-16)

Some who read Mat. 5 conclude that what Jesus is saying is impossible. Therefore, it is just a goal given to show our sinfulness. He never expected anyone to actually do it. But the people in the Kingdom will be able to do them through the blessings of the New Covenant.

At the 2nd Coming of Christ, the believing remnant will ask God to treat them graciously and Christ will usher them into the Kingdom with its New Covenant.

- a. God saves/delivers His friends and destroys His enemies in accord with the Abrahamic and Davidic Covenants. (Acts 3:18-26)
- b. Satan will be bound. (Rev. 20:1-3)
- c. Christ will reign through His Throne in Jerusalem. (Ezek. 37:24-28)
- d. Israel will be the head of the nations not the tail. (Deut. 28:13)
- e. Gentiles will be blessed with Israel and through her RISE, worshipping God together. (Is. 60)
- f. All creation will live in harmony. (Is. 11:6-9)
- g. In the Kingdom, sinners will be living under optimal conditions, removing all the excuses they use to try to escape God's judgment. (Rev. 20)

They will be operating under the New Covenant.

- a. It is made with the nation Israel. (Jer. 31:31, 35-37)
- b. It is enacted in accord with Daniel's Time Schedule for Israel. (Jer. 31:31, 33)
- c. God puts the Law inside, He engraves it on the heart. (Jer. 31:33)
- d. It will be the basis for a new grace relationship between Israel and God. (Jer. 31:33)
- e. The Law will be universally apprehended, making it possible for them to teach it to the world. (Jer. 31:34)
- f. It is an everlasting covenant. (Jer. 32:40)
- g. It is empowered by the giving of the Holy Spirit. (Ezek. 36:26-27)
- h. It provides forgiveness of the nation's sin. (Jer. 31:34)

Because of these provisions for optimal living on earth in the Kingdom, God's justice will be perfect and swift on those who disobey the Law and rebel against the Holy Spirit.

The Lord Jesus Christ will be able to do this because unlike fallen human leaders, He will judge not by external actions but by intentions of the heart. (Jer. 17:9-10)

We have an example of this in early Acts:
Acts 2:42-47; 4:23-5:11

The privilege for the believing remnant going through the Tribulation Period (vs. those born in the Kingdom) is that they have the opportunity to experience a foretaste of these blessings under ADVERSE conditions, which specially equips them to rule in the Kingdom.