THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (MAT. 6)

Detailed Picture of the Kingdom

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KINGDOM

Before Jesus, the only picture Israel had of the Kingdom came from the apostate leadership at that time. They emphasized the external acts of the Law to the exclusion of the internal attitudes of the Law.

Jesus replaces the pictures of the Kingdom that neglects the heart given to them by the apostate religious system with His Own pictures of the Kingdom that begin with the heart. He makes these pictures indelible through the use hyperbole—part horrifying, part ridiculous, part comical—tongue in cheek.

In Mat. 5:21-48, Jesus strips away the external TRADITIONS of the apostate religious system, purifying the Law and restoring it to its original pristine state so that it is ready to be engraved in the heart of the believing remnant via the New Covenant, beginning in the coming Tribulation Period.

In Mat. 6:1-18, Jesus strips away the external PRACTICES of the apostate religious system, purifying these practices and restoring them to their original purpose of praising God from the heart, especially in that Tribulation Period.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KINGDOM

Mat. 6:1-4: (Lk. 12:33)
Almsgiving in public for the praise of men.
Almsgiving in the secret places in praise of God thy Father.

Mat. 6:5-7: (Lk. 18:9-14)
Praying in public for the praise of men.
Praying in the secret places in praise of God they Father.

Mat. 6:16-18: (Mat. 9:14-15)
Fasting in public for the praise of men.
Fasting in secret places in praise of God thy Father.

Mat. 6:19-21: (1 Peter 1:4-5)
Laying up treasures on earth in line with the apostate religious system, which will be destroyed.
Laying up treasures in Heaven in accord with Jesus' teaching, which will be brought to the earth and established forever.

THE TWO PICTURES OF THE KINGDOM

	WHAT THE APOSTATE NATION SAYS THE KINGDOM LOOKS LIKE:	**WHAT JESUS SAYS THE KINGDOM LOOKS LIKE:**
ENTRY POINT	NATURAL RIGHTEOUSNESS	FAITH RIGHTEOUSNESS
MOST IMPORTANT	EXTERNALS OF THE LAW	INTERNALS OF THE LAW
ANGER—Pt. A	ADDRESSING ANGER THAT RUINS SELF OTHERS (SHORT OF MURDER) IS NOT IMPORTANT.	ADDRESSING ALL ANGER IS MOST IMPORTANT: **AS THOUGH THE GATES OF HELL ARE ABOUT TO CLOSE OVER THEM!**
ANGER—Pt. B	RECONCILING BEFORE WORSHIPPING NOT IMPORTANT.	RECONCILING WITH FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE IS ALL IMPORTANT: **AS THOUGH THEY WERE ABOUT TO BE THROWN INTO THE DEEPEST DUNGEON FOREVERMORE!**
ADULTERY—Pt. A	ALLEVIATING LUST IS NOT IMPORTANT	ALLEVIATING LUST IS SO IMPORTANT THAT KINGDOM PEOPLE **HAVE ONLY ONE EYE AND ONE HAND!**
ADULTERY—Pt. B	ANSWER TO LUST IS LETTERS OF DIVORCEMENT.	LETTERS OF DIVORCEMENT RESULTED IN **AN AVALANCHE OF ADULTERY!**
OATHS	USED TO CONCEAL DECEIT AND HYPORCRISY	KINGDOM PEOPLE WON’T NEED OATHS BECAUSE **THEIR YEAH IS YEAH, THEIR NAY IS NAY** IN TRUTH AND SINCERITY.

	APOSTATE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM	JESUS CHIRST
OPERATING PRINCIPLE: NOT RETRIBUTION	USE LAW FOR MAXIMUM RETRIBUTION AND VENGEANCE AGAINST ENEMIES.	KINGDOM PEOPLE LEAVE VENGEANCE TO THE LORD: **HE HITS YOU LET HIM HIT THE OTHER CHEEK; HE TAKES YOUR COAT, GIVE HIM YOUR SHIRT; HE MAKES YOU GO 1 MILE, GO WITH HIM 2**.
OPERATING PRINCIPLE: LOVE	LOVE THEY FRIEND; HATE THY ENEMY	KINGDOM PEOPLE LOVE THEIR ENEMIES, **BLESSING THOSE THAT CURSE; DOING GOOD TO THOSE WHO HURT; PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE THEM!**
PRACTICE #1: ALMSGIVING	IN PUBLIC BEFORE MEN **BLOWING TRUMPETS IN SYNAGOGUES AND STREETS.**	IN SECRET BEFORE GOD THEIR FATHER, **SO SECRET THEIR LEFT HAND DOESN'T KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT HAND IS DOING.**
PRACTICE #2: PRAYER	IN PUBLIC BEFORE MEN, **STOPPING TRAFFIC IN THE STREETS**	IN SECRET BEFORE GOD THEIR FATHER, **SO SECRET IT'S IN A SMALL CLOSET WITH THE DOOR SHUT**
PRACTICE #3: FASTING	IN PUBLIC BEFORE MEN, **DISFIGURING THEIR FACES.**	IN SECRET BEFORE GOD THEIR FATHER, **ANOINT HEAD AND WASH FACE.**

	APOSTATE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM	JESUS CHIRST
WHERE ARE YOUR TREASURES?	ON EARTH IN ACCORD WITH SATAN THEIR FATHER AND HIS KINGDOM THAT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE EARTH.	IN HEAVEN IN ACCORD WITH GOD THEIR FATHER AND HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM THAT IS COMING TO THE EARTH.

Those operating in this way operate in accord with God their Father. They are “perfect” because they are operating in the way God designed them to operate. These are the Pure in Heart who will be called the children of God their Father in His Kingdom. (Mat. 5:48)