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Next Weeks Lesson: "Seek Ye first the Kingdom of God" (Matthew 6-7)

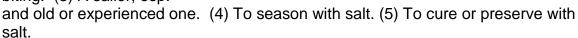
Today's Lesson: The Sermon on the Mount: "A More Excellent Way" (Matthew 5)

# 1. The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

In the following verses the Savior invites us to adopt character qualities that will produce specific rewards. What is the character quality and its accompanying reward?

|                         | Character Quality | <u>Reward</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| A. Verse 3:             |                   |               |
| B. Verse 4:             |                   |               |
| C. <u>Verse 5</u> :     |                   |               |
| D. Verse 6:             |                   |               |
| E. Verse 7:             |                   |               |
| F. Verse 8:             |                   |               |
| G. <u>Verse 9</u> :     |                   |               |
| H. <u>Verse 10</u> :    |                   |               |
| I. <u>Verse 11-12</u> : |                   |               |

- 2. Which of the above character qualities would you like to possess? Why? What would you be willing to do to acquire it?
- 3. Ye are the "salt" and "light" of the world. (Matthew 5:13-16)
  - **A.** Read <u>Matthew 5:13-16</u> together.
  - B. Webster's definition of "salt" (1) An element that gives liveliness or pungency. (2) Sharp, biting. (3) A sailor, esp.

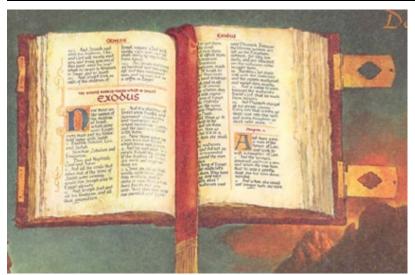


**C.** Webster's definition of "light" (1) Something that makes things visible or affords illumination. (2) All colors depend on light. (3) Electromagnetic radiation to which the organs of sight react. (4) The radiance or illumination from a particular source.



**D.** The command to "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" appears to me to be one wherein we must put aside our personal prejudices and let the world know that we know the truthfulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ and then allow it to illuminate from our very being. How can we fulfill this commandment if we are filled with negativism and depression?

### 4. Christ declares that he has come to "fulfill the Law of Moses". (Matt. 5:17-20)



17 ¶ Think not that I am come to adestroy the blaw, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the alaw, till all be bfulfilled.

# 5. Matthew 5:21-26 "Thou Shalt Not Kill"

21 ¶ Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou <sup>a</sup>shalt not <sup>b</sup>kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be <sup>c</sup>in • danger of the judgment:

22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is <u>angry</u> with his brother <u>without</u> a cause shall be <u>in</u> danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, <u>Raca</u>, shall be <u>in</u> danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;

24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be areconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

25 <u>Agree</u> with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

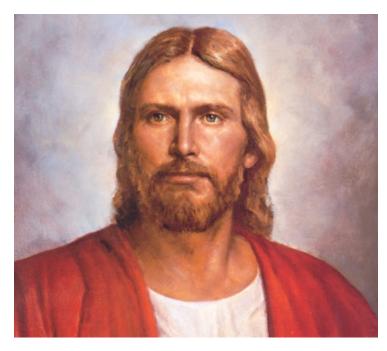
26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid <a href="eta-the-">athe</a>• uttermost farthing.

**A.** The law of Moses was used to demand exactness from a rebellious people. "An eye for an eye was strictly enforced. The law of Christ demands forgiveness and love. Where are these two principles demonstrated in the above verses?

# 6. Matthew 5:27-32 "Thou shalt not commit adultery"

27 ¶ Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:
28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to clust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.
29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into

<sup>b</sup>hell.



30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into ahell.

31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of adivorcement:

32 But I say unto you, *That* whosoever shall aput away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

#### **A.** What do these numbers represent?

| <u>1980</u>         | <u>2000</u>              |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 48%                 | 68.5%                    |
| 29%                 | 58%                      |
| 26%                 | 43%                      |
| 12%                 | 17%                      |
| 11%                 | 27%                      |
| Black women (20-24) |                          |
|                     | 48%<br>29%<br>26%<br>12% |

#### 7. Matthew Chapter 5:33-37 "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain"

- 33 ¶ Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not aforswear thyself, but shalt been been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not aforswear thyself, but shalt been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not
- 34 But I say unto you, aSwear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:
- 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his afootstool : neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.
- 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37 But let your <u>acommunication</u> be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh <u>bof</u> evil.

# 8. Matthew Chapter 5:38-42 "An eye for an eye"

- 38 ¶ Ye have heard that it hath been said, An <a href="eege">aeye</a>• for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:
- 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not <u>aevil</u>: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right <u>bcheek</u>, <u>cturn</u> to him the other also.
- 40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.
- 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.
- 42 <sup>a</sup>Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

## 9. Matthew Chapter 5:43-48 "Love thy neighbor and hat your enemy"

- 43 ¶ Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt alove thine enemy.
- 44 But I say unto you, <u>aLove</u> your <u>benemies</u>, <u>cbless</u> them that <u>dcurse</u> you, do <u>egood</u> to them that <u>hate</u> you, and <u>persecute</u> for them which despitefully use you, and <u>persecute</u> you;
- 45 That ye amay be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
- 46 For if ye alove them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?
- 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others?* do not even the publicans so?
- 48 <u>Be</u> ye therefore <u>perfect</u>, even as your <u>Father</u> which is in heaven is <u>perfect</u>.