INTRO TO THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

"The sermon on the Mount does not present the way of salvation but the way of righteous living for those who are in God's family, contrasting the new Way with the old one of the scribes and Pharisees. For the Jews of Christ's day, this was a detailed explanation of 'Repent' (3:2; 4:17). It was also an elaboration of the spirit of the Law. " (The Ryrie Study Bible)

FURTHER INTRO

"This sermon is a masterful exposition of the Law and a potent assault on Pharisaic legalism, closing with a call to true faith and salvation. (7:13-29). Christ expounded the full meaning of the Law, showing that its demands were humanly impossible. This is the proper use of the Law with respect to salvation: it closes off every possible avenue of human merit and leaves sinners dependent on nothing but divine grace for salvation. (Rom. 3:19-20; Gal. 3:23-24)"

ONE AWESOME SERMON: THE BEATITUDES

Matthew 5:1-12

The rabbi is seated and class will begin...

According to custom, teachers stood out of respect for the reading of the Scriptures and sat humbly to teach.

"Blessed"

Describing the inner qualities of a follower of Jesus Christ.

"Extremely happy"

"Fully satisfied" (Gr.) which can only happen as a result of our salvation in Christ

The poor in spirit

The recognition of our spiritual poverty

(Is. 64:6; Rom. 3:9-20; Luke 15:11-19)

A necessary first step toward a home in heaven

Theirs is the kingdom of heaven

VS. 4

Those who mourn

Mourning over sin, both our sin and sins of others

They will be comforted

See Isaiah 40:1-2

VS. 5

The meek

Not sissified nor weak, but great strength under control (Picture a bridled draft horse)

A clear understanding of who we are in Christ John 15:1-11; Rom. 8:31-39

They will inherit the earth

As they reign one day with Christ

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

The ones who just can't get enough of God, who truly understand that He is our daily Bread and "the air I breathe."

They will be filled

VS. 7

The merciful

Matt. 18:21-35

Matt. 25:31-46

James 2:12-13

They will be shown mercy

The pure in heart

The one experiencing constant cleansing through submission to God's word

Rom. 12:1-2

They will see God

The peacemakers

Consider also 5:43-48; Rom 12:17-21

They will be called sons of God

Those who are persecuted because of righteousness

Theirs is the kingdom of heaven (2 Tim. 2:12-13)

"If we died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him. If we disown Him, He will also disown us; if we are faithless, He will remain faithful for He cannot disown Himself."

VS. 11-12

The insulted, persecuted and lied about because of Jesus

"We are in good company in enduring the world's hatred...If the world had nothing better than a cross for Jesus, it will not have a royal carriage for his followers." - J.C. Macaulay

Their reward in heaven will be great