

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW PART 3

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Matthew, an Apostle ... an eye witness.

Five sermons: Matt chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, 24-25

Never mind what you have heard ... what did Jesus say?

The Sermon on The Mount: Best known, least understood ... certainly the least obeyed!

Matthew 7:1-6

"Judge not, that you be not judged. (Is that right? Don't I have a right to judge? We don't take one verse out of context!! There are more verses coming up!!) For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, "Let me remove the speck from your eye"; and look, a plank is in your own eye? **Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.**

(Hypocritical judgment)

"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

(This is a spiritual lesson ... Don't give valuable spiritual things to individuals (spiritual pigs/dogs) that won't value them ... that will turn on you ... obviously you must MAKE A JUDGMENT)

Matthew 7:15-16

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? (Among the

sheep are ravenous wolves ...who look like sheep ... who come in sheep's clothing ... Religious people)

1 Corinthians 5:1-6

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! And you are puffed up, (the congregation) and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. For **I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged** (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

1 Corinthians 5:11-13

But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person.

For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? **Do you not judge those who are inside?** But those who are outside God judges. **Therefore “put away from yourselves the evil person.”**

Paul's message to us is that we have to look at people's lives and make a judgment .. come to a conclusion. We are required to judge.

1 Corinthians 6:1-3

Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? **Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?** And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? **Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?**

Revelation 2:2

"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And **you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; (obviously they judged!!)**

We should not be judgmental ... always looking to criticise others. "OR" ... odious remark. Discern before you try to correct.

Matthew 7:7-11

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!**

Summary:

Matthew 7:12

Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. (The Golden Rule)

Matthew 7:13-14 Talking about Righteous Living

"**Enter by the narrow gate;** for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (We make the choice ... be narrow minded!!)**

Matthew 7:15-20

"**Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. **You will know them by their fruits. (We have to judge!)**** Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good

fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them. (You will make a judgment by their fruits!)

The "big numbers" are going the wrong direction.

Matthew 7:21-23

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. (Not the talkers ... THE DOERS!!) Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

The term "Lord" means "Lord" ... A Master whom we should obey.

Jeremiah 23:16-17

Thus says the Lord of hosts:

"Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you.

They make you worthless;

They speak a vision of their own heart,

Not from the mouth of the Lord.

They continually say to those who despise Me,

"The Lord has said, 'You shall have peace'";

And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say,

'No evil shall come upon you.' "

Jeremiah 23:21-22

"I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran.

I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

But if they had stood in My counsel,

And had caused My people to hear My words,

Then they would have turned them from their evil way And from the evil of their doings.

Jeremiah 23:25-27

"I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? **Indeed they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart**, who try to make My people forget My name by their dreams which everyone tells his neighbour, as their fathers forgot My name for Baal.

Jeremiah 23:30-32

"Therefore behold, I am against the prophets," says the Lord, "who steal My words every one from his neighbour. Behold, **I am against the prophets**," says the Lord, "who use their tongues and say, 'He says.' Behold, **I am against those who prophesy false dreams**," says the Lord, "and tell them, and cause My people to err by their lies and by their recklessness. **Yet I did not send them or command them**; therefore they shall not profit this people at all," says the Lord.

Matthew 7:24-29

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, (**This Sermon on The Mount**) I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. **"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, (This Sermon on The Mount) and does not do them**, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. (Jesus spoke with personal authority)

Matthew chapters 8-12 are not in chronological order. They are a theme to demonstrate Jesus authority.

Matthew 8:1-4

When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."

Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

History shows that no one had been cleansed of leprosy since the days of Moses ... until this healing done by Jesus. The rabbis had two views were you could prove a miracle had been done. One was ... they believed that ONLY THE MESSIAH could heal leprosy. They also believed there were two other things that only The Messiah could do: Cast out a mute or dumb spirit ... and ... only The Messiah could make a person born blind ... see.

Matthew 8:5-13

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed, dreadfully tormented."

And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Matthew 8:14-15

Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them.

Matthew 8:16-17

When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

"He Himself took our infirmities

And bore our sicknesses." (Once again Jesus of Nazareth fulfills one of the signs of The Messiah)

Matthew 8:18-22

And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side. Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man (This expression, "Son of Man" ... appears 32 times in this gospel) has nowhere to lay His head." (Not true permanently!!)

Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." (Implying once my father has died ... in other words ... family comes first? No!!)

But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Matthew 8:23-27

Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"

But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

So the men marvelled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" (NB Jesus has authority over the wind and sea ... over authority)

Matthew 8:28-34

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" (Demons know who Jesus is!! They know there's a time of judgment. They know where they are going)

Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine."

And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.

Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.

Matthew tells us that Jesus has authority ... over sickness ... nature and demons!!