

Them Which Despitefully Use You

Matthew 5:5 – 48

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~ We spent quite a bit of time in the last leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God familiarizing ourselves with and finding our place on the mountain of the government of God to hear and see the Sermon on the Mount spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. In an effort to expedite us onward through Matthew I won't be repeating any of what we covered in our last report. If you have not read our previous report I highly suggest you go back and do so now – because we set down certain axioms of truth that we are going to follow. This totally misunderstood and abused section of Scripture – the Sermon on the Mount - is so critically fundamental to our comprehension of Holy Writ as a whole because it has become hurtful and harmful to some people while giving others a religion that fails at every turn. When handled incorrectly, it is positively dangerous; as it keeps people from Christ. It should bring people to the foot of the cross to observe the Gospel; but I'm not sure how often that happens anymore....

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

~ The Christian to whom the secrets of producing fruit hath been revealed in spiritual discernment by the Holy Spirit can turn to this passage of Scripture and read, "blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth" - and see the rewards of meekness. Those who simply live in reality know the meek are not inheriting the earth today. No, friends, the meek are the ones who are NOT inheriting the earth as I type this report and as you read it. Paul says the saints shall judge the world. We are joint heirs in Christ. We should have goals that we desire to realize in our lives but we must understand we can't do it on our own or for our self pride. Whoever wrote the article entitled 'Meekness and How I Attained It' never got an audience big enough to give it to, I promise you that! That isn't meekness. Meekness is a fruit of the Spirit. Acceptable fruit can only ever be produced when we are in the direct will of God....

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

~ Does the natural man hunger and thirst for righteousness today? No, not the ones I have met - and I have met a lot of them. The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; they are foolishness to him, for they are spiritually discerned. This report is for those who have found Christ and His righteousness. The only righteousness we know anything about is found in Him....

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

~ This is the one beatitude I wouldn't have you miss for the world, my dear readers. The modern misunderstood condition of the means by which we obtain mercy is astoundingly frightening. Paul says, "....not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy hath He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit!" We should be merciful to others because we have obtained mercy. Believers are a chosen generation and a Royal Priesthood; a holy nation of peculiar people that we should show forth the praises of Him Who hath called us out of darkness and into His marvellous light; which in times past were not a people, but now are a people of God who had not obtained mercy; but now have obtained mercy!' – first epistle of Peter....

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

~ As sure as fire is hot we don't take confession in our safari; but any honest man will admit that his heart is not pure. How can the heart of man, who is desperately wicked, be made clean? Jesus said, "ye are clean through the Word of God which I have spoken unto you." It is by the washing of regeneration that we are made clean today; by the Blood of Christ that cleanses us from all unrighteousness as we confess our sins and give every thought and deed to Him! How are you doing with giving every thought and deed to Him for correction and reproof? Are you successful turning over your mind in the Throne Room in front of the Father God? THAT – and NOWHERE else - is where we are cleansed from all sins, friends....

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

~ I challenge any scholar with a pencil to jot down ONE peacemaker today. NO ONE can make peace on this earth – except Christ alone - Who IS peace. Christ said, “think not that I have come to bring peace; assuredly I say unto you: division.” Christ made peace by His blood and if you accept it on that basis you will continue with us and if you do not accept Christ on that basis then this is where we part ways permanently. Actually, you probably stopped reading a LONG time ago. Well, I hope you’ll continue along with me, friend. When we have a righteous God and an unrighteous sinner we’re going to have conflicts of thinking, reasoning, philosophy and conclusions - every single time. We have peace with God, being justified by faith, through the Lord Jesus Christ – and no other way....

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

~ The application of this beatitude and it’s relevance to the remnant of Israel in the Great Tribulation period should be plain to see on our spiritual horizon. The question is: can it be applied to the Kingdom that is to be established? I think many Scriptures show that evil still exists in the Millennial Kingdom - as it is a time of testing. Rebellious outbreaks ALONE reveal evil is potentially prevalent and present in the Millennium....

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

~ Paul will also say we are salt, and Jesus says we are light. Children of God in any age and under any condition are both salt and light to the world. "Savor" is the correct word: savor = tang. We have very, very few salty Christians today. Are you saved? If yes, then you are the salt of the earth – not the sugar. We are His salt in His earth. What influence do you have on other people? What influence do you THINK you have on others? Can they see the light in your eyes? Today, we have all credible science abandoning the search for dark matter and are discovering anew that light is, indeed, a substance. Some science has NO credibility whatsoever, by the way. Well, this author said light was an actual, physical, tangible, substance that we could handle thirty years ago – and I can document that, friends. Harvard and Princeton only subsequently caught up. We need to be a light in the world – in your neighborhood – wherever you are; a substance that is motion. Our light is to give out the Word of God in one way or another....

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

~ Many on the liberal theology team use the term anthropocentric for the Sermon on the Mount; having abandoned the proper term: Theocentric. We don't get hung up on these words in the Spiritual Safari and they are very simple. Anthropocentric means man-centered and theocentric means God-centered. Our light does not shine so that we might be patted on the back and given a silver star. Our light shines that others might see the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts and in our lives! Our every motivation should be to bring glory and honor to the cause of Christ. Pause and consider that very seriously right here....

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

~ Jesus is speaking of the ceremonial aspect of the Mosaic System of Levitical Law; because Christ was the sacrifice for the sins of the world. How

did He fulfill the law? Christ was the embodiment and fulfillment of the law in that He kept every jot and tittle of it. That which the law set before man Christ was able to attain to; and He is able today to make His righteousness come upon you and me through faith. You and I cannot attain His standard; we need Someone that can take our hand and place it in the hand of a Holy God. We need a Savior and we need mercy; some of us more than others! We can only receive mercy when we come to Christ....

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

~ There is no excuse for any genuine child of God to break the Mosaic System of Levitical Law; with the exception of animal sacrifices. So, there is no way to keep the Mosaic Law. See, we are called to a MUCH higher plane of living than the Ten Commandments. We are to esteem others better than ourselves and consider the welfare of others above our own. If you simply do that – you won't have ANY problem with the Mosaic Law. The law of God and Moses are still a standard for His chosen people; however, what this reveals to me is that I do not measure up to and cannot keep the law in and of my own strength and power and self-will or willpower. That acknowledgement lands me at the cross of Christ every time - where I discover He has fulfilled all the law by being there upon it; and I thank Him for that....

19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

~ You aren't going to get away with breaking the commandments, friends! You aren't going to keep the law in your own strength, either. This is the absolute crux of brokenness in the life of a believer – one that all must come to – sooner or later. Until we get past this in our thinking there will be no spiritual development and no spiritual growth whatsoever in our lives! You can – and MUST – come to Him for salvation and for power and for strength – and peace. The Pharisees had a high degree of righteousness

according to the law; but that's simply unacceptable to God. How are you and I going to surpass this? We're going to need a Savior....

20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

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

~ Let's examine this tremendous statement properly, correctly and completely, because I have called other people fools many times – but not other believers. This says if we are angry with our brother for no reason we're murderers! Well, unbelievers aren't my brother. Some people think they will qualify that statement by answering they keep the law. Friends, no, we need a Savior today. We're not going to break His commandments to us and go on like He doesn't even matter and claim to have some high and lofty relationship with Him. You're not qualified to say this is your religion when you break every jot and tittle every moment of every day. When you do that and also mouth the fact that you're somehow religious; Jesus says, "you're a hypocrite and a fool!" God has lifted Jesus to the inth degree – not you. You don't measure up to His standards. Period. Full stop....

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 reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

25 Agree 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 the uttermost farthing.

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 lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

~ Combine the above passage with our command to give every thought and deed to Christ for correction and reproof and then report back to me how you're doing with these things of Christ. Ready? GO! No one has ever kept the law, friends - be serious. There has not been one person ever who exchanged oxygen for carbon that has ever kept the law. I recognize that teaching infuriates MANY people. Most of the cults incorporate something along those lines and they always somehow seem to end up disagreeing with me about everything.

The Lord Jesus went unbearably deep when he taught the Sermon on the Mount. The entire law was addressed; hundreds of laws relating to land and money and EVERYTHING – EVERYTHING was covered by His teaching at that time. The Bible tells us all have sinned and that we need to come to Christ Jesus for mercy and help. That's what the Sermon on the Mount does for ME – it has shown me I do NOT measure up today. The man that says he lives by the Sermon on the Mount is breaking a law that he has dumbly declared unimportant! Turn THAT over in your minds until its final conclusion bubbles through and see what you have left. See, when you say you keep the commandments and that you live by them what you really mean is that you vote yes for them as they apply to OTHER people. The problem is, as we've said, they're not selective. They apply to YOU; and they're not up for a vote, either. We have a tremendous lesson on the law before us and a sovereign dictatorial edict of mankind's relationship to it....

29 And if thy right eye offends 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 hell.

30 And if thy right hand offends 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 hell.

~ I see people throw this Scripture around with no reverence for or inkling of a clue concerning the severity of this text. Our Spiritual Safari brings us here to the flames of judgment fire - and the heat is ALREADY unbearable. If something in your life doesn't meet Gods standard for your life you must either throw it in the fire or you need a Savior to redeem you out of the flames of hell; because your offending body part is going there, friends! Don't kid yourself about the sobering reality of what this book, the Bible, really teaches. Fooling around with this stuff and acting like we keep the law is nothing but hypocritical and pious nonsense that everyone sees except you. You are exposed as a fool when you profess this as your religion. When you leave Christ out of the Bible, all that remains is black magic and severe judgment. You are as dumb as an ass grazing grass on a hillside if you limit the Word of God to this as the standard that you cannot and do not keep.

The backslapping and congratulating of everyone in the church while giving endless credits and acknowledgments for obviously irreplaceable talents, is positively sickening. God says He hates it. That will all come to an end here and now for a genuine child of God turning to the Lord Jesus. Further, apostates make the Gospel of no effect and lose their salt when they say those things we're talking about and, my friend; this is where I shudder as they head off into the Lake of Fire. We ALL need to cry out for mercy because THAT will be when we have kept the law! You're not kidding me when you write to me and tell me you are keeping the law; I happen to know you're not keeping it. You're just like me: saved by grace....

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

~ Okay, the one ground for a Biblical divorce is given in what is turning into a whirlwind tour with the Lord Jesus. He took us on a dizzying expedition in this report from our safari. We're going to expound greatly on divorce in the nineteenth chapter of this book. We'll develop it fully at that time. We're not avoiding it - and it's clear that there is only one acceptable reason given by the Lord Jesus Himself for a Biblical divorce. Frankly, we're not ready for that teaching yet....

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

33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

~ Mankind has an oath for every office under the sun and the oaths are broken before, during and after the swearing in thereof. It's perfectly laughable to see a politician pledge something. Christians should be the kind of people that do not have to take an oath for an oath to be implicated and upheld in our dealings with others. Modern business does not operate on a hand shake any more, friends. If you go buy a car you have to sign in twenty-five different places before you get the keys. See, mankind is not to be trusted. Joseph's own brothers sold him as a slave, you will recall. This passage of Scripture known as the Sermon on the Mount says the child of God is to be faithful in ALL circumstances....

36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

~ Some men have no compunction about telling bald-faced lies after swearing on a Bible to tell the truth. The lie that Satan is preparing to tell mankind is a mile high! The media and politicians both convolute the facts until said facts are no longer known. I don't trust any of them – at all! Well, immediately after this Jesus is going to tell us to turn the other cheek when it is slapped? Do you turn the other cheek? We're moving fast and furious through this section of Scripture on purpose. It hurts. Well, maybe not you – but it sure does convict me deeply. The Lord Jesus also says, "a strong man armed keepeth his house." In the Kingdom you can turn the other cheek; down here it will get you smacked twice. When you have no other cheek to smack you will find you have no instructions from the Lord Jesus about what to do, either. Be strong in the Word of God; keep your house accordingly....

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn 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 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may 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 love 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 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

~ This is the law of the future coming physical and literal Millennium Kingdom; and when Christ literally and physically rules and reigns on this earth on His literal and physical Throne we will be able to adopt this – but not today. There are great truths and principals, as we are seeing, as we move along in our Spiritual Safari. We need to help others by esteeming them better than ourselves and by considering their welfare above our own. There will never be too many people doing that. The only way we can ever begin to express love for each other is to share the Word of God so they can know the love of God. We need to get them the saving message of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ that will point them to Heaven ~

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