

Every Stroke Inspired: Embracing Jesus' High View of Scripture – Pt. 5

Matthew 5:17–20

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Jan. 11, 2026

MAIN IDEA: The heart of the Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' explanation of the Old Testament Scripture—the fact that He didn't come to abolish it but to fulfill it. In other words, Jesus embraced the Old Testament and held a high view of it during His life in ministry. But the question for you is: What is your view of the Bible? As citizens of Jesus' kingdom, our view of Scripture must replicate Jesus' view—that is, a true subject of Jesus' spiritual kingdom must have a right relationship to Scripture

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. Affirm Jesus' Relationship to Scripture (17)
- II. Adopt Jesus' View of Scripture (18)
- III. Apply Jesus' Diagnosis with Scripture (19-20)
 - A. The Dishonorable Disciple (19a)
 - B. The Honorable Disciple (19b)
 - C. The False Disciple (20)**
 1. **His Spiritual Condition—"you will not enter..."**
 2. **His Flawed Righteousness—"unless your righteousness surpasses..."**
 - His hope of heaven is fatally misplaced (Lk. 16:15; 18:9).
 - His obedience to Scripture is fatally inadequate.
 - (1) It's external, not internal (Mt. 23:25-28, 33; Mk. 7:6).
 - (2) It's for his glory, not God's (Mt. 6:2; 23:5).
 - (3) It's incomplete, not radical.
 3. **The Biblical Remedy**
 - Regeneration—a changed heart within (Jn. 3:3, 5)
 - Justification—a changed standing with God (Lk. 18:9-14)

Obedience that's Incomplete, Not Radical

1. He obeys easier, less important commands but neglects the important ones (Mt. 23:1-3, 23).
2. He undermines Scripture by emphasizing his own ideas (Mt. 15:1-8).
3. He interprets and applies Scripture in a way that misses its primary intent (Mt. 5:21-47).

BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

1. Read Matthew 23:13–33. How does Jesus illustrate and describe the pharisees in this passage? How can we as believers use Matthew 23 as a spiritual diagnostic tool regarding our sanctification?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Now that you have an understanding of Matthew 5:17–20, what kind of disciple would you label yourself as: a dishonorable disciple, an honorable disciple, or a false disciple? Most, if not all, of us would proclaim to be true disciples—but how do we fight against being dishonorable disciples? Discuss.
2. Now that the new year (2026!) is here, what changes (if any) have you made individually regarding reading Scripture, meditating on Scripture, and praying and singing? What changes (if any) have you made regarding how your spouse/family interacts with these disciplines? What plan do you have to read and digest other Christian literature?