

## BA Commentary: Matthew 5–8

### Jesus Isn't Preaching a TED Talk

This section contains the **Sermon on the Mount** (Matthew 5–7) and moves straight into Jesus *proving* His authority in Matthew 8.

Don't read this as a gentle devotional or some idealistic "code of ethics." This is a **kingdom constitution**—Jesus laying down what it *really* looks like to live under His rule.

And let's be clear: it's not about polishing up your life. It's about *dying to yourself completely*.

### Matthew 5 – From Beatitudes to Blades

The chapter opens with what people call the *Beatitudes*, but don't let that soft name fool you. These are the **battle cries of the kingdom**. Jesus blesses what the world despises:

- Poverty of spirit
- Mourning
- Meekness
- Hunger for righteousness
- Mercy
- Purity
- Peacemaking
- Persecution



This isn't a checklist. It's a description of the kind of man who's been wrecked by grace and rebuilt by the Spirit.

Then Jesus says something wild:

*"I did not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them."* (5:17)

He raises the bar—not drops it.

- Anger = murder
- Lust = adultery
- Divorce = covenant destruction
- Enemies = objects of sacrificial love

**Jesus isn't just after right behavior. He wants right desires.**

## Matthew 6 – Secret Strength and True Loyalty

Jesus turns the spotlight off of external religion and zeroes in on **secret devotion**.

He dismantles three spiritual power moves: giving, praying, and fasting.

*“When you do it, don't do it for show. Do it for your Father, who sees in secret.”* (paraphrased)

God sees the stuff nobody else sees—and that's where your character is built.

Then Jesus attacks another idol we coddle: **control**.

*“Do not be anxious... But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.”* (6:25–33)

**Anxiety isn't just emotional. It's spiritual.**

It's often rooted in misplaced worship. When we chase security, approval, or provision more than God—we're functionally idolatrous.

This chapter is Jesus asking:

*“Who's your King—Me or your need for control?”*

## Matthew 7 – Fake Faith Gets Exposed

Jesus closes His sermon by **confronting the crowd**—not comforting them.

- “*Judge not*”—yes, but read the rest. It's about *hypocrisy*, not accountability. (7:1–5)
- “*Enter through the narrow gate*”—because **the easy road leads to destruction**. (7:13–14)

He warns about **false teachers**—those who sound good, look spiritual, but whose fruit is rotten.

Then He says one of the most sobering things in the entire Bible:

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom...”* (7:21)

**Talk is cheap. Obedience is everything.**

Jesus is drawing a hard line between professing Him and *following* Him.

And finally, He compares two builders:

- One builds on the **rock** (His words).
- One builds on **sand** (their own wisdom).

**The storm comes for both.** Only one stands.

## Matthew 8 – Jesus Walks, Speaks, and Commands Like a King

Now that Jesus has taught with authority—He *demonstrates* it.

- He heals a leper with a touch.

- He marvels at a Gentile's faith.
- He calms a storm with a word.
- He casts out demons with a sentence.

In every situation, Jesus is **in complete command**. No one else talks like this. No one else moves like this.

The response? Awe and fear.

*“What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?” (8:27)*

Exactly. That's the point.

### Theological Themes

- **Kingdom culture** always opposes worldly comfort
- **Righteousness** is internal first, external second
- **Obedience** reveals identity
- **Jesus is not just a teacher—He is the sovereign King**

### Masculine Implications

- Real men don't just quote Scripture. They **obey it**.
- Leading your family begins with crucifying your ego.
- Fear of man must be buried at the feet of the One who calms storms.
- You cannot live a kingdom life with a cultural mindset.

### Final Application

Ask yourself:

- Am I more concerned with being *seen as godly* than actually *being godly*?
- Am I building on the Rock—or still playing in the sand?
- Have I submitted to Jesus' authority—or just admired His teaching?

**This isn't casual Christianity. This is the cross-carrying kind.**

If you're still holding onto your comfort, control, or casual religion—drop it now. Because storms are coming. And the only thing that will stand is the life built on **obedience to the King**.