

Wednesday March 25th

What Jesus said about Scripture - Matthew 5:17-20

Opening

What's the most extreme thing you (or someone you know) has ever done to keep a promise?

Digging Deeper

Message Review: In Matthew 5-7 Jesus is teaching His followers about the kingdom of heaven and He addresses the issue of the scriptures. Many people were confused by Jesus' teaching because it challenged some of the traditional views of the OT scriptures. But Jesus assures His listeners that He is in full agreement with all of God's Word. Our focus for discussion tonight will be on verse 18 and Jesus' declaration that all of God's Word will be accomplished. **READ** Matthew 5:18

- 1) Jesus begins His statement in verse 18 with an introductory phrase. He says, "Assuredly, I say to you..." It's obvious Jesus is the one speaking, so why do you think He says this? Compare this to John 1:3 and consider Jesus' unique qualifications to make this statement.
- 2) The next phrase in verse 18 declares that "heaven and earth will pass away." Compare this to Isaiah 65:17, 2 Peter 3:10 and Revelation 21:1. In what ways should the truth of these verses affect our perspective as Christians?
- 3) In the remainder of verse 18 Jesus declares that all of God's Word—even to the smallest detail—will be accomplished before the physical universe is dissolved. Many of the promises of God's Word have already been fulfilled—from Abraham becoming a father of nations to the coming of the Messiah and much more. Take some time and list as many things as you can think of that have yet to be fulfilled.

Application

1. What promises are you trusting God to fulfill in your life or family?
2. What are some reasons we can be confident as we wait on God for these things?

Prayer

1. What is something from this passage that we can pray for?
2. Pray for personal needs.