

Celebration of 1 year anniversary with 194K balance AND Jesus First Sermon

Sermon on the Mount –Overview Chart

Section	Passage	Theme	Key Points
I. Kingdom Character	Matthew 5:1–16	What a disciple is	Beatitudes; Salt & Light
Beatitudes	5:1–12	“Heart” posture of the kingdom	Poor in spirit, mourn, meek, hunger for righteousness, merciful, pure, peacemaker, persecuted
Salt & Light	5:13–16	Influence of disciples	Preserve goodness by shining through good works
II. Kingdom Righteousness	Matthew 5:17–48	Jesus fulfills and explains the Law	Righteousness vs. Pharisees; 6 “But I say” teachings
Anger → Reconciliation	5:21–26	Internal heart change	Deal with anger quickly
Lust vs. Purity	5:27–30	Internal holiness	Purity begins in the heart
Divorce → Covenant	5:31–32	Value of covenant	Faithfulness matters
Oaths → Integrity	5:33–37	Honest living	Let your “yes” be “yes”
Retaliation → Non-revenge	5:38–42	Radical mercy	Turn the other cheek
Enemies → Love	5:43–48	Godlike love	Love those who oppose or hate us
III. Kingdom Devotion	Matthew 6:1–18	Worship without show	Giving, praying, fasting done for God NOT attaboys
Giving	6:1–4	Quiet generosity	Seek God’s reward, not applause of others
Prayer	6:5–15	Sincere communion	Lord’s Prayer; forgiveness
Fasting	6:16–18	Humble seeking	Don’t make it a performance
IV. Kingdom Priorities	Matthew 6:19–34	God-first living	Treasure and your heart, trust, worry-free faith
Treasure	6:19–24	True wealth	Two treasures, on earth or heaven-Two Masters
Do Not Worry	6:25–34	Trust God’s care	Seek first His kingdom
V. Kingdom Relationships	Matthew 7:1–12	How kingdom people treat others	Humility, prayer, Golden Rule
Judging	7:1–6	Humble discernment	Remove the log from your own eye first
Ask/Seek/Knock	7:7–11	Dependence on Father	God gives good gifts
Golden Rule	7:12	Summary ethic	Treat others as you want to be treated
VI. Kingdom Choices	Matthew 7:13–29	Paths and foundations	Gates, teachers, disciples, builders
Two Gates	7:13–14	Direction	Narrow vs wide way
False prophets	7:15–20	Discernment	Know THEM by their fruit
True/False Disciples	7:21–23	Authenticity	Do the will of the Father, “Believe in Son Jesus”
Wise/Foolish Builders	7:24–27	Foundation-Sand?	Obedience to Jesus Word = stability
Authority of Jesus	7:28–29	King’s authority	<u>Teacher unlike any other, especially Moses!</u>

Jesus/Moses Comparison Chart in Book of Matthew

Moses considered the greatest prophet to ever live, gave Israel direction from **God** who then showed up *in Person* to explain and fulfill THE LAW, paving the way for a NEW COVENANT OF GRACE through JESUS BLOOD

Theme / Event	Moses (Old Testament)	Jesus (Book of Matthew)	Matthew's Purpose / Message
Birth under threat	Pharaoh orders death of Hebrew male babies (Exodus 1:15–22).	Herod orders death of male babies in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16).	Jesus relives Israel's story — JESUS is the true Deliverer.
Saved in infancy	Moses is hidden in Egypt and saved from death.	Jesus' family flees to Egypt to hide from Herod (Matthew 2:13–15).	"Out of Egypt I called my Son" (Hosea 11:1 fulfilled).
Return from Egypt	Moses leads Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 14).	Jesus comes up out of Egypt to begin His mission (Matthew 2:19–21).	Jesus brings a new exodus — freedom from bondage of sin.
Passing through water	Israel passes through the Red Sea (Exodus 14).	Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13–17).	In NT Baptism marks the new beginning of God's people.
Tested in the wilderness	Israel tested 40 years in the wilderness (Deut. 8:2).	Jesus tempted 40 days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1–11).	Jesus succeeds where Israel (and Moses) failed in obedience.
Law from the mountain	Moses receives the Law on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19–20).	Jesus gives the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7).	Jesus is the new Lawgiver — fulfilling, not abolishing, the Law. Institutes New Covenant
Miraculous provision	God provides manna and water (Exodus 16–17).	Jesus multiplies loaves and fishes (Matthew 14, 15).	Jesus is the true Bread of Life.
Authority over nature	Moses parts the Red Sea by God's power.	Jesus calms the storm (Matthew 8:23–27).	Jesus' is the SOURCE of all miracles and divine power.
Face shining with glory	Moses' face shines after meeting God (Exodus 34:29).	Jesus' face shines at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8).	Jesus is not reflecting glory — He is glory.
12 leaders CHOSEN	Moses leads 12 tribes of Israel.	Jesus chooses 12 disciples (Matthew 10:1–4).	12 disciples would lead the Nations (both Jew and Gentile)
Mediator of a covenant	Moses mediates the OLD Covenant through LAW and sacrifice.	Jesus mediates the NEW Covenant through His Own Blood (Matthew 26:28).	Jesus brings forgiveness and direct access to God.
Final instructions before death	Moses gives final words to Israel in Deuteronomy.	Jesus gives the Great Commission after His resurrection <u>to all nations</u> (Matthew 28:18–20).	Jesus' mission is universal to ALL NATIONS, thus He is greater than Moses

Summary:

Matthew intentionally structures his Gospel to show that:

- Jesus **recapitulates Israel's story** and **fulfills Moses' role** as deliverer and lawgiver.
- But unlike Moses, Jesus brings **grace, truth, and salvation, not just law.**
- The **mountain scenes** (Sermon on the Mount, Transfiguration) highlight that the **new covenant of GRACE** surpasses the old covenant of LAW.

Testament and Covenant CAN BE USED INTERCHANGABLY in MOST Cases...

HOWEVER, an IMPORTANT POINT IN OUR STUDY OF MATTHEW:

The NEW COVENANT was NOT instituted by Jesus UNTIL the last supper and the spilling of “His” Blood on a Cross AS A SACRIFICIAL LAMB...It is AFTER THE CROSS where the NEW COVENANT BEGINS, A NEW COVENANT of GRACE as opposed to the Old Covenant of LAW found in the pages of our Old Testament Bibles...

EVEN The OLD TESTAMENT is CLEAR, where God tells us of the TEMPORARY nature of the Old Testament or Old Covenant system of sacrifice and Law!

PERHAPS IT’S BEST IF WE TAKE A PAUSE IN OUR STUDY OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT AND LET GOD’S WORD PROVIDE SOME BETTER PREP AND INSIGHT...:)

Jer. 31:31 *“Behold, days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,*

Luke 22:20 *And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the **new covenant** in My blood.* This NEW Covenant, would be the NEW Covenant of GRACE vs. LAW and SACRIFICE!

2Cor. 3:4-6 *Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a **new covenant**, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.*

Heb. 8:7-13 *For if that **first covenant** had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a **second**.⁸ For finding fault with them, (Israel) He says, (**Jeremiah 31**) “Behold, days are coming, says the Lord, When I will effect a **new covenant** With the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; ⁹Not like **the covenant** which I made with their fathers On the day when I took them by the hand To lead them out of the land of Egypt; For they did not continue in **My***

covenant, And I did not care for them, says the Lord. ¹⁰ “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel After those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their minds, And I will write them on their hearts. And I will be their God, And they shall be My people. ¹¹ “And they shall not teach everyone his fellow citizen, And everyone his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ For all will know Me, From the least to the greatest of them. ¹² “For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And I will remember their sins no more.” ¹³ When He said, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear.

Heb. 12:24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a **new covenant**, and to the sprinkled blood, (by Priests of animals) which speaks better than the blood (Best lamb and blood of Abel’s flock) *of Abel.*

POINT: The Book of Matthew, as well as the other three Gospels, are each a “*bridge*” between the Old Testament LAW and the New Covenant of GRACE introduced personally, by Jesus in the NEW Testament at the Last Supper!

WATCH THIS: Here in Matthew with the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus begins to lay the foundation of the New Covenant....

Law VS. Grace... Works VS. Faith

HERE ARE SOME QUICK POINTS TO SET THE STAGE FOR MOVING FORWARD...I CONFESS IT WAS EVEN CONFUSING TO ME FOR YEARS, SO LET ME HELP YOU 😊

1. **Many Christians today are confused about the role of the Old Testament Law in the New Covenant life.** We see churches still teaching that believers must obey Old Testament laws, **NOT!!!!!!** NOT

the dietary LAWS as they were given to separate Israel from the world who had NO Law, to set them apart as God's holy people!

NOT!!!! THE LETTER OF THE LAW as it has already done its job showing all people's NEED FOR A SAVIOR!!!!, So Jesus will NOW introduce you and I to the HEART of the Law (LOVE, Agape)...Which can now be kept ONLY through HIS INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT!

The Church historically often mixes grace with commandments — creating confusion, guilt, and a powerless Christian walk. But Scripture is clear: the Law had a purpose, and that purpose leads us to Christ — not back into legalism.

THE APOSTLE PAUL MAKES THIS CLEAR...Romans 6:14 *For sin shall not be master over you, **for you are not under law but under grace.*** In Christ, believers are no longer under the law. The law was never designed to empower people to live righteously. ONLY the Holy Spirit living in us can cause us to live a righteous obedient life in Jesus...*if we remember to surrender to HIS POWER and GUIDANCE!*

2. The Law Was Given to Israel, Not to the Gentiles (HELLO?)...IT

BREAKS MY HEART WHEN I SEE NEW BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, WHO THEN WANT TO GO "BACK TO THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT" AND TRY TO LIVE LIKE A JEW!

The Old Testament law was a covenant between God and Israel — not between God and the Gentile nations. Romans 2:14 acknowledges that Gentiles were never given the Law of Moses. The Ten Commandments and the 613 laws of the Torah were part of Israel's national covenant. **Gentiles were "outsiders" to that covenant until Christ came and made a new covenant available to all by faith.**

3. The Law was used by God like a Teacher or a personal Tutor Galatians 3:24–25 *Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be **justified by faith.*** ²⁵ *But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.* Think of the law like a mirror. Its purpose is to show us our spiritual deadness — to reveal that we are sinners in need of a Savior. It can't give life, but it can show us that we don't have it.

4. **Justification Is by Faith, Not Law** Rom. 3:27 *Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.*
5. **The Old Covenant Is Obsolete** Hebrews 8:13 explains that by calling the new covenant “new,” God has made the old one obsolete. Jesus will teach us in the Sermon on the Mount, that there is something NEW for us to walk into, by following after Him WITH FAITH...we will be FREE to enjoy an abundant life, NOT weighed down by rules and regulations, but a life of obedience made possible by the Power of God Himself, The Holy Spirit prophesied...Who indwells every believer and serves as our NEW MORAL COMPASS!

The Beatitudes teach us all about God’s Grace.....

NOT what we have to become, as Jesus meets each one of us where we are....The beatitudes are about WHO GOD IS, How much He loves us and How He consistently gives us His unending, without measure, LIMITLESS GRACE that we are called to imitate!

So I’ve entitled this three week sermon series...GRACE IN THE BEATITUDES, which I pray will be an encouragement to each and every one of us!!!!!!

The Beatitudes call us to embrace poverty of POOR in spirit, which means we are BLESSED if we recognizing our need for God’s grace, rather than relying on our wealth and possessions.

The Beatitudes begin with Jesus announcing GRACE for the broken. The kingdom of Heaven ON EARTH, starts with what God gives, not what we offer.

Matt. 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When You Have Nothing, God Offers Everything

- Jesus isn’t praising weakness; He’s welcoming the weary.

- **“Poor in spirit” means acknowledging need**, and watching as God’s grace comes rushing in.
- **Jesus starts out by encouraging every person who recognizes they are toast at the feet of a perfect, holy God....**AND then watching as Jesus does His best work in the empty places you’re too embarrassed to admit.

Let’s close in personal prayer asking God to help each of us to see how poor in spirit we truly need to recognize, as we let the Holy Spirit shows us our sin and our failures.....**SO THAT, Jesus can lift you up as a Child of God!!!!**

COMMUNION

Silent Night closing song.....