

- *No Bible study on 12/24 or 12/31.*
- PRAY
- READ Matthew 4:17-5:20

Theme: “Behold your King is coming to you” (Zech.9:9; Mt.21:4-5)

### **CHARTING THE COURSE FOR THIS EVENING:**

- Why did Jesus need the Holy Spirit?
- Structure of the Sermon on the Mount
- History of the Sermons interpretation
- Similarities between Matthew and James

## **WHY DID JESUS NEED THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

**MANKIND WAS ORIGINALLY CREATED FOR THE SPIRIT** (1 Cor.15:44-50).

A. Adam was created from the earth (Genesis 2:7; Ezekiel 37:9-14; see John 20:22).

1. The Hebrew word for man is □ *ādām*
2. A Hebrew word for ground/land is □ *ādāmâ*.
3. Both *ādām* and □ *ādāmâ* are used in Genesis 2:7:

Genesis 2:7

Then the LORD God formed man (□ *ādām*) of dust from the ground (□ *ādāmâ*), and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

B. While Adam (□ *ādām*) was created from the ground (□ *ādāmâ*) he was ultimately created for a heavenly (Spiritual) life (**1 Corinthians 15:44-50**; cf. John 20:22).

C. From the beginning, the Scriptures make a distinction between earth (the dwelling place of Adam) and heaven (the dwelling place of God) (Genesis 1:1).

1. Man’s goal was heaven (dwelling with God).
2. Instead of life and obedience to God’s commandments, Adam chose death (Genesis 2:17).
3. Because of Adam’s disobedience, sin and death became the most powerful principle at work in this fallen world (Romans 5:12-21).

*Where was Adam placed?*

*Where is God’s dwelling place?*

Man’s was created for \_\_\_\_\_ citizenship.

*What evidence is there in this world that death “reigns”?*

“The Church has never sufficiently confessed the influence the Holy Spirit exerted upon the work of Christ.”  
-Abraham Kuyper (1837-1920).  
Kuyper was a widely recognized historian, theologian, philosopher, writer, professor-educator and was Prime Minister of the Netherlands for four years.

**THE BEGINNING OF MATTHEW’S GOSPEL** (Matthew 1:1 with Genesis 5:1).

*How does Matthew's Gospel begin? (Matthew 1:1)*

- A. Matthew 1:1 reads, "The book of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ the Christ.
- B. Genesis 5:1 reads, "The book of the \_\_\_\_\_ of *ādām*.

*What phrase is repeated over and over again in Genesis 5?*

- C. The point of the beginning of Matthew's Gospel is that what the first Adam failed to do, the Second Adam, Jesus would accomplish.
- D. It's very important to realize that Jesus did not just save us from our sins! Through His obedience, Jesus has also brought us into the estate for which we originally were created (John 10:10; Ephesians 2:6; Phil.3:20; Col.3:1-4; cf. Rev.13:6).

*In John 10:10, Jesus isn't simply talking about restoring our physical life is He? What is the Life He is talking about?*

## **THE HOPE OF THE SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

*Where else in the Old Testament do we see this distinction between "heaven and earth"?*

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ were modelled after heaven.
- B. Ezekiel uses the same language as Genesis 2:7 for the "re-creation" of man (**Ezekiel 37:9-14**).
1. Ezekiel 33:21 through 39:29 contains a series of six messages delivered by Ezekiel during the night prior to the exiles' reception of the news that Jerusalem had fallen.
  2. Ezekiel 36:16 through 37:14 is Ezekiel's fourth speech and describes Yahweh's restoration of the people of Israel to their land (Valley of Dry Bones).
- C. The Old Testament spoke of the Holy Spirit coming from the Temple and filling the earth (**Ezekiel 47:1-12**). Similarities between Ezekiel 47 and Revelation 22:
- ✓ The house/sanctuary of God's presence precipitates blessing and healing described in terms of a river (Ezek.47:1,12; with Rev.22:1-3; cf. Ezek.48:35)
  - ✓ Both rivers have trees on either side (Ezek.47:7; Rev.22:2)
  - ✓ The leaves of the trees are for healing (Ezek.47:12; Rev.22:2)
  - ✓ Both rivers bring life (Ezek.47:8,9; Rev.22:14,17)

*Where did Jesus tell the disciples to go after He ascended? (Acts 1:3-5)*

*Where did Jesus pour out the Spirit from on the Day of Pentecost? (Acts 2:33)*

*What happened in the Temple when Jesus died on the cross?*

## CONCLUSION

*Why did Jesus need the Holy Spirit?*

- The first Adam failed to obey God. He chose death over life, disobedience over obedience. Because of Adam's rebellion, death is now *the principle power* of this fallen world (dust and ashes).
- Without the Spirit, the principle power of this fallen world and the kingdom of Satan could not be overcome *on our behalf*.
- Christ had the Spirit so that He could baptize His people with the Spirit (Matthew 3:11; Acts 1:5).
- The only means by which you and I can overcome temptation is by God's Word and Spirit. Because of this, Jesus identified with us by receiving the Holy Spirit and living a life in obedience to God's Word. **Jesus needed the Holy Spirit because you and I need the Holy Spirit.**
- You and I are in need of Jesus Christ's sacrificial death on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. But we are also in need of the presence of Jesus to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil. Christ is present with us through His Spirit (John 14-17). You and I cannot live as citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven without the Holy Spirit (see John 3). The Spirit is *the principle power* of the age to come. Without Christ's death and resurrection and the Spirit's Sovereign work and power, death would still reign over us.

*How is this related to the Sermon on the Mount?*

- ✓ The Sermon on the Mount is an exposition of "Kingdom Living" (Mt.4:23; 5:19-20; 6:10,33). That the Sermon on the Mount is "Kingdom Living" is another way of saying that it is a description of "life in the \_\_\_\_\_." Kingdom and \_\_\_\_\_ are inseparable (cf. Matt.3:17).
- ✓ We cannot obey the demands of the Sermon on the Mount apart from the work of the \_\_\_\_\_.

"If you find yourself arguing with the Sermon on the Mount at any point, it means either that there is something wrong with you or else that your interpretation of the Sermon is wrong" (D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount* p.29).

*Are the demands of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount impossible?*

Dale Allison writes in his commentary, *The Sermon on the Mount*, "A famous Jewish scholar once told me that he found Jesus' teaching on lust in 5:27-30 to be utter nonsense: it is a futile polemic against hormones, a vain arguing with biological facts...." (p.25).

*Are parts of the Sermon on the Mount "impractical"?*

*What is the relevance of the Sermon on the Mount for our lives?*

*What is the relationship of the Sermon on the Mount to Moses and the Old Testament?*

## **SIMILARITIES BETWEEN MATTHEW AND JAMES**

There are more parallels in the epistle of James than in any other NT book to the teaching of our Lord in the gospels.

- 1:2 joy in the midst of trials (cf.Mt.5:10-12)
- 1:4 exhortation to perfection (cf.Mt.5:48)
- 1:5 asking for good gifts (cf.Mt.7:7ff)
- 1:20 against anger (cf.Mt.5:22)
- 1:22 hearers and doers of the Word (cf.Mt.7:24)
- 2:5 “poor”...heirs of the kingdom (Matt.5:3)
- 2:10 the whole law to be kept (cf.Mt.5:19)
- 2:13 blessings of mercifulness (cf.Mt.5:7)
- 3:18 blessings of peacemakers (cf.Mt.5:9)
- 4:4 friendship with the world is enmity against God (cf.Mt.6:24)
- 4:10 blessing of the humble (Mt.5:5)
- 4:11-12 against judging others (cf. Mt.7:1-5)
- 5:2ff moth and rust spoiling riches (cf.Mt.6:19)
- 5:10 the prophets as examples (cf.Mt.5:12)
- 5:12 against oaths (cf.Mt.5:33-37)

## **FOR NEXT WEEK: REREAD MATTHEW 5-7**