

### Scripture Reading

**Matthew 4** <sup>23</sup> Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup> Then the news about him spread throughout Syria. So they brought to him all those who were afflicted, those suffering from various diseases and intense pains, the demon-possessed, the epileptics, and the paralytics. And he healed them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

### **Pre-Sermon Remarks & Prayer**

#### Introduction

Question 1: What is the gospel? Good news / announcement. But of what?

- Generic answers: Healing/riches/etc., God loves you
- Bible (Paul) answers:
  - Ephesians 1 answer: justification by grace through faith?
  - 1 Corinthians 15 answer: Jesus' death and resurrection?
  - Romans 10 answer: personal decision and profession?
- *Potential problem: these are all written by Paul on the other side of the empty tomb*

Question 2: How can Jesus proclaim the gospel if he had not yet died and risen?

#### The Gospel of Jesus

1. **Matthew 4** <sup>23</sup> Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.
2. **Matthew 9** <sup>35</sup> And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.
3. **Matthew 24** <sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.
4. **Matthew 26** <sup>13</sup> Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her."

#### Two Helpful Books I read in 2012

- Explicit Gospel by Matt Chandler | Gospel in the air vs. gospel in the ground
- King Jesus Gospel by Scot McKnight | personal gospel vs. King Jesus gospel

#### **Gospel: God's kingdom has come, and Jesus is the king**

1. Personal gospel is essential and important, however...
2. You can't understand the sermon on the mount without the "King Jesus gospel"
3. Our world is more hungry than ever before for a "King Jesus gospel" (more later)

## I. Reframing the Story

**Matthew 1** <sup>1</sup> An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham...

- The King Jesus gospel begins with the story of Israel
  - Creation: God is in charge, places humans to rule with him
  - Fall: humans chose to align themselves with the rebel
  - Israel: Abraham's family will bring blessing to all nations of the world
- Matthew goes *out of his way* to frame Jesus in the story of Israel

## Matthew and Moses

1. Genealogy = genesis
2. Endangered at birth
3. Teaching from a mountain
4. Face shining with God's glory
5. Five-fold literary structure
  - a. Sermon on the Mount, Commissioning the Disciples, Parables, Life in the Church, Olivet Discourse

*\*\* Jesus is the long-awaited prophet that was foretold by Moses, the ultimate teacher of God's truth.*

## Matthew and David

1. Royal birth announcement
2. King David name & number
3. Constant focus on kingdom
  - a. 55 uses of the word βασιλεία, ten parables start with "the kingdom is like..."
4. Crucifixion as enthronement

*\*\* Jesus is the long-awaited son of David, the true king of Israel, the king of all nations.*

*\*\*\* We won't understand the Sermon on the Mount if we don't have the right framework*

## II. Reframes the Need

**Matthew 4** <sup>17</sup> From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near."

- What is our greatest need: 1) practical needs, 2) emotional needs, 3) death, 4) judgment?
- **Matthew 12** <sup>36</sup> I tell you that on the day of judgment people will have to account for every careless word they speak.
- Humanity has not lived out our God-ordained purpose, and you as a human being will be held accountable for your participation and contribution to the mess.
- "The kingdom is coming" is something like "the boss is on his way back"

## III. Reframes the Hope

**Matthew 6** <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

- Much of the personal gospel revolves around going to heaven/not hell (true)
- But the hope of the King Jesus gospel is bigger than that: the restoration of all things under the wise, loving, powerful rule of God and his Messiah.

- **Gospel of grace!! Matthew 9** <sup>12</sup> Now when he heard this, he said, “It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice. For I didn’t come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
- Beatitudes (next week) are the whole key to getting in on this kingdom

#### IV. Reframes Morality

**Matthew 5** <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

- Humanity’s search for “the good life” | politics, philosophy, ethics
- The sermon on the mount is the manifesto for kingdom living

#### V. Reframes Evangelism

*(Matthew 28 and the great commission are much more popular)*

**Matthew 10** <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’

- Generational shifts from the *feelings* generation to the *activist*
- Politics aren’t that important (to me), but for some, they’re everything
- Our leaders have failed us (Any Functioning Adult sticker)

#### The Sermon on the Mount

...is breathtaking | the news is so good

...is comprehensive | it will rearrange your whole life

...is challenging | impossible to do on your own

Will you respond to Jesus’ call to repent, because the kingdom has come near?

Will you believe that the good news is even better than what you’ve heard?

...if so...

Will you orient the very core of your life around this manifesto of the kingdom?

Will you let the shepherd king walk with you and teach you how to live his way of life?

Will you go out and tell the world that there is a new king, and his kingdom will never pass away?

#### Benediction

**Revelation 1:5b-6** To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.