

***It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.***  
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

**Standing on the Promises of God - -**

**Exodus 15:18** "The LORD shall reign forever and ever."

**Matthew 5:17**

“Do not **believe or consider** that I came to **invalidate or annul** the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to **invalidate or annul** but to **fulfill**.”

**POD (in review) - The eternal Son of God, came from eternity into time through the virgin birth for the purpose of fulfilling the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 1:23 cf. John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-7; Matthew 5:17).**

- ✓ Jesus Christ **came to fulfill** the Messianic prophecies and the Mosaic Law.
- ✓ In order to fulfill the Law, He had to obey it.

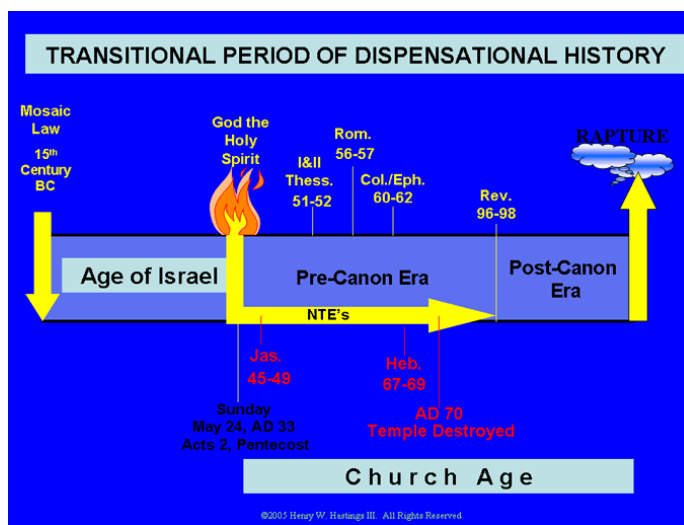
**Galatians 4:4**

But when the **fullness of the time came**, God sent forth His Son), **born of a woman**, born under the Law.

Jesus Christ stepped across the threshold of eternity into time *to the right place*; Bethlehem - **Matthew 2:6**

Emphasis on the virgin birth of the humanity of Christ in fulfillment **Isaiah 7:14**

**γενόμενον ὑπὸ νόμον** - Jesus Christ was **subject to** the Law, under which he was born.



**POD - Jesus Christ was born under the Law and lived during the Age of Israel in which the Mosaic Law regulated the life of the Israelite.**

**POD - Jesus Christ was subject to obey the Mosaic Law.**

**Jesus Christ had to obey the Law to the letter!**

God always does things at the right time and in the right place and in the right manner.

Note **Galatians 3:11**

Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident...

- **Doctrine of Justification** - God's pronouncement or declaration that an individual is righteous in His sight (**Romans 3:24; 5:1; 8:30; Galatians 2:16**).

Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident...

**POD - No one is declared righteous in God's sight by obeying the Law.**

**Was Jesus Christ justified before God by obeying the Mosaic Law? No!**

- ✓ Jesus Christ was righteous because of who He was.
- ✓ Believers are righteous because of who we are in CHRIST.
- ✓ Jesus Christ was justified because He **was** righteous.

At the moment of faith in Christ believers are imputed with the righteousness of God.

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

We became the righteousness of God in Him at the moment of faith alone **in Him**.

**Galatians 2:16**

Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law [*obeying the Law*] but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.

**Matthew 5:17**

"Do not **believe or consider** that I came to **invalidate or annul** the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to **invalidate or annul** but to fulfill."

**POD - Jesus Christ obeyed the Law yet He suffered its curse even though He was righteous (Galatians 3:13).**

- What's the curse of the Law?
  - ... Death
  - ... When you violate the Law you are under the curse of death (**Deuteronomy 21:22-23 cf. James 2:10**).

**Matthew 5:18-20**

"For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the **smallest letter** or **stroke** shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished."

ἰῶτα - ἰ - "Smallest letter in the Greek alphabet" - - JOT

κεφαλαία - ἰ - "Projection or the hook of a letter" - - TITTLE

**19** "Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments [*During the Age of Israel and in Messiah's kingdom*], and teaches others *to do* the same, **shall be called least** in the kingdom of heaven; but **whoever keeps and teaches them**, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

"**Shall be called least**" - Note the inequality that will exist in the kingdom that Messiah rules from David's throne.

- ✓ The kingdom was on the brink of being established because it was being offered to the nation- and the King had come.
- ✓ This King had come to fulfill the **Law** and the **Prophets**.
- ✓ Everyone was under obligation to obey the Law into the kingdom.

## “Whoever keeps and teaches” -

- The teacher must first obey the Law before He teaches it.
  - ✓ Obedience is hashed out in experience.
  - ✓ He has to live out the doctrine before He can teach it effectively.

## Christ rejects Pharisaical righteousness - -

**20** “For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses *that* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

In other words - do what the Pharisees tell you to do and it will not be good enough to enter the kingdom.

Man must be as righteous as God to enter the kingdom and that is completely impossible unless God gives you His righteousness.

God’s righteousness is apart from any human works.

### Romans 4:5

But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

- Now the Lord begins rejecting the Pharisees interpretation of the Law in **Matthew 5:21-48**

## Six examples that Christ uses from the Mosaic Law - -

1. Murder (**Matthew 5:21-26 cf. Exodus 20:13**) – the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment.
2. Adultery (**vv. 27-30 cf. Exodus 20:14**) – the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment.
3. Divorce (**vv. 31-32**)
4. Vows (**vv. 33-37**)
5. Vengeance (**vv. 38-42**)
6. Love (**vv. 43-47**)

Kingdom standard regarding Murder.

Kingdom standard regarding Adultery

Kingdom standard regarding Divorce

Kingdom standard regarding Vows

Kingdom standard regarding Vengeance

Kingdom standard regarding Love

## Purpose of the Sermon -

1. Designed for the disciple’s education and training prior to being sent out to preach the kingdom message.
2. Serves as the Messianic King’s inaugural address to Israel establishing the principles of His messianic kingdom.
3. Rejects the Pharisees religious righteousness and corrects their interpretation of the Mosaic Law.

The Pharisees had derived an entire system of conduct and ethics from *their* interpretation of the Law.

To understand this portion of the Sermon we need to understand what the Pharisees taught regarding these six subjects - -

### 1<sup>st</sup> Subject: Kingdom standard regarding Murder.

- The Pharisees taught that as long as you did not murder someone, you were righteous before God.

- By today's standards many think - "I'm righteous if at the end of my life I have not murdered anyone".
- Kingdom standards require being more than human works...

**Matthew 5:21-22**

"You have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' (Exodus 20:13) and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.'

- The principle being communicate here is that if a person violates the law, he will be tried in a court of law and punished for breaking the law.

**POD - God designed judgment to be punitive not rehabilitative.**

- ✓ The punishment must fit the crime and when it does it serves as a deterrent.
- ✓ The punishment serves as a deterrent because the punishment causes a person to think about the sentence he will face before he chooses to commit a crime.

**Deuteronomy 21:22-23** If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his corpse shall not hang all night on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God), so that you do not defile your land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance.

- ✓ There must be a judicial system to execute just judgment – the criminal must be liable to the court.

**22 "But I say to you...**

- Notice what the Lord does here –
  - ✓ He does not annul the commandment or the criminal's liability to a system of justice - HE RAISES THE STANDARD!

**22 "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother [a fellow man or neighbor] shall be guilty before the court;**

- Whose court is He referring to now?
  - ✓ His court – in the Millennium.
  - ✓ Punishment **will be** executed in the kingdom of Christ during His reign on earth.

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*