

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 4:23-5:2

Matthew 4:23 - 5:2

And [Jesus] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them....

The Sermon on the Mount

Homework: read through Matthew chapters 5, 6, 7
(every week)

- Jesus repeated many of these concepts throughout His public ministry
- Something of a summary of the many important teachings of Jesus

Context - Never read a Bible Verse

Exodus - Pharaoh enslaves, baby boys to be killed

Moses

Pharaoh's grandson

left, returned, delivered the people (designated by God)

performed miracles, set the Hebrews free, crossed the Red Sea

went up Mount Sinai, received the law

brought the law to the people

Context - Never read a Bible Verse

Exodus - Pharaoh enslaves, baby boys to be killed	Matthew – Herod orders boys under 2 to be killed
Moses	Jesus
Pharaoh's grandson	left, returned as the Deliverer (designated by God)
left, returned, delivered the people (designated by God)	baptized, tested in the wilderness
performed miracles, set the Hebrews free, crossed the Red Sea	performed miracles, healed the oppressed
went up Mount Sinai, received the law	went up on the mountain
brought the law to the people	taught the people

Jesus, the Prophet Moses Spoke of

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

(Dt 18: 15-19 ESV)

Purpose

Moses

Commands of God



Establish character
of the nation



World might recognize, trust,
honour the God of Israel

Jesus

How we should live

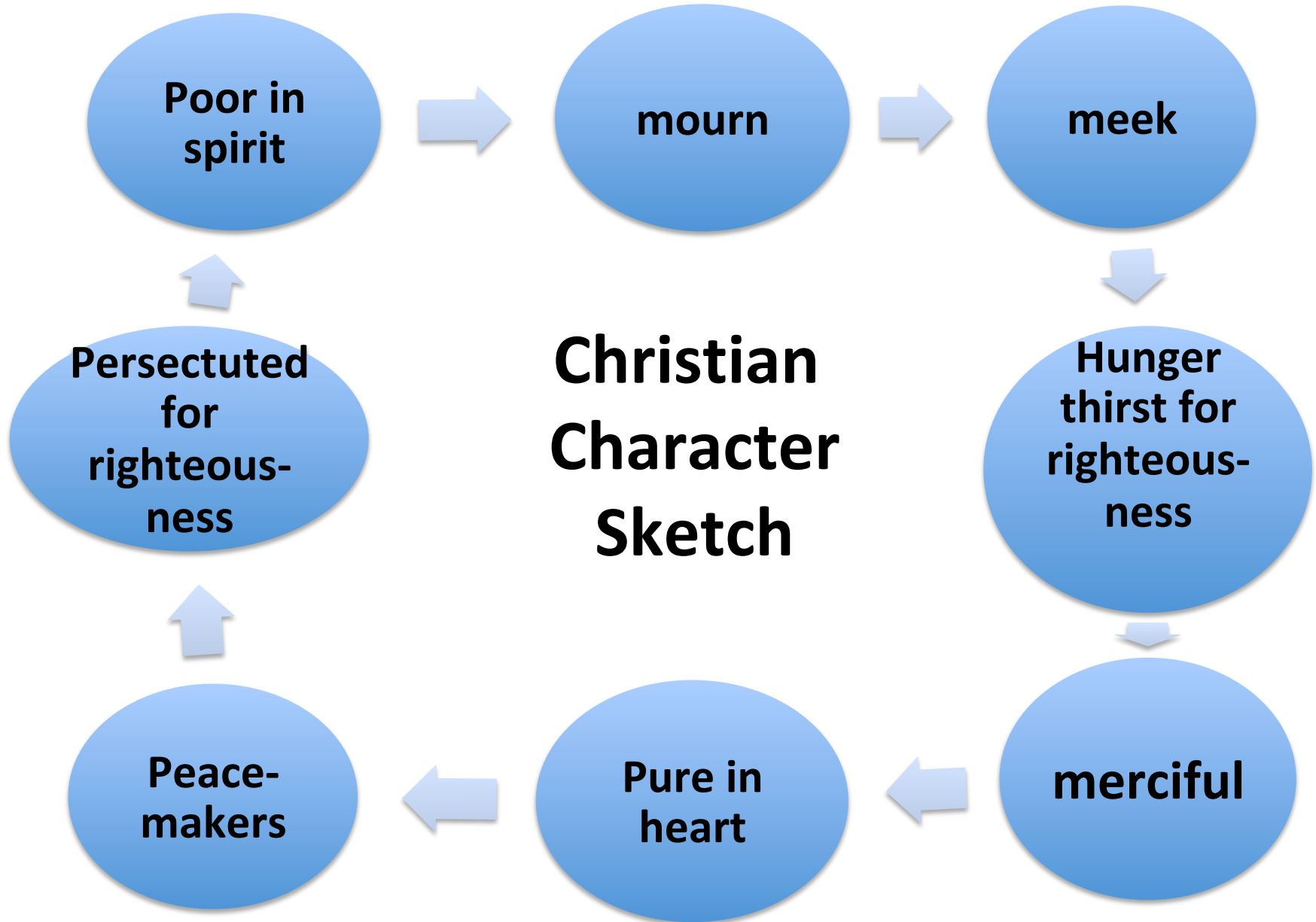


Character of individuals
and the church



We might serve
as his NT priests

gospel of the kingdom (4:23)



Invictus (W.E. Henley)

Out of the night that covers me,
 Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
 For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
 I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
 My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Invictus

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.

Invictus - not for the Believer

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.



I am NOT the master of my fate,
I am NOT the captain of my soul



JESUS is captain
JESUS is master

Christian Character

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet (5:13).

- Our faith is a private affair – not
- Private and corporate prayer is essential
- We need to get involved in the issues of the day
- If salt has lost its taste... rot must follow

The Gospel of the Kingdom

Gospel → good news

“You have heard that it was said → But I say to you”

Nobody can fully obey the law

Repentance is needed

Beatitudes address complacency

“have you entered the kingdom of heaven?”



Repentance

Turn around

*...by works of the law
no human being will
be justified in his
sight, since through
the law comes
knowledge of sin....
all have sinned and
fall short of the glory
of God.*

Ro 3:20-23 (ESV)

Blessed are...

Blessed... nine (9) times...

Recipients of God's favour

Divine favour and delight...

Applause of heaven...

Present and future tenses...

A Blessed Person...

A blessed person is someone who, because of God's love and grace, enjoys in the present, and is promised in the future, God's favour regardless of one's personal status or earthly condition.

God's favour and grace is available to those who will repent and follow Jesus.

In Conclusion...

Moses...

- skin of his face shone b/c he had been talking with God
- came down and led his people to the promised land

Jesus...

- came down from the mountain (Matt 8:1)
- we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14)
- is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature (Heb 1:3) who leads His people to the Kingdom of heaven

In Closing...

Let us study and listen with hope, awe, and amazement as we hear that we can have God's favour and enter the Kingdom of heaven.