

SERMON

On the

MOUNT

JESUS CONSIDERS
CHARACTER *BEFORE*
CONDUCT

Our Study So Far

- Introduction

- It is a sermon
- Pointed to the disciples
 - Urging them to do something
 - Bring to a point of decision

- Beatitudes

- Characteristics of the title of disciple - Citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven
- All Citizens will need to exhibit each of them as some time in their walk
 - Internal Characteristics: Humility, repentant, meek, seeking, merciful, pure, peacemaker.
 - External Responses: Persecution, insults, lies and smear
- Not one of these characteristics are natural human tendencies.

- You are salt and light

- We are to live differently than the non-disciple.
- Our salt and light are diminished by our reaction to the world.
- The world needs us or there will be no salt no light

A logical progression
from one point to the
next

Last Week we talked about SALT and LIGHT Alternatives

- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Education
- Medicine
- Politics
- Humanism
- Hedonism
- Fatalism
- Agnosticism

THE ONLY ANSWER TO DARKNESS IS
TO BE BORN AGAIN

WE LIVE WITHIN THESE PEOPLE OF
DARKNESS. SOME WILL NEVER SEE
THE LIGHT WITHOUT YOU.

Matthew 5:17-20

- Continuation of the Sermon
 - **What** a disciple is
 - **What** is the manifestation of our inner being
- Beginning of a new section
- ONLY AFTER BEING COMES DOING.

HOW ARE WE TO
MANIFEST THE
CHARACTERISTICS
OF CHILDREN OF
GOD?

Kingdom

- 61 times in the gospels
- Of God and of Heaven
- No definition found in the Bible
- Ideas: Political, geographical, moral, spiritual, apocalyptic
- John the Baptist and Jesus –
 - “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near”
- God is King
- Kingdom vs Reign

ROYAL POWER, KINGSHIP, DOMINION, RULE, REIGN

- Not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom
- Of the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah
- Of the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's kingdom

**A KINGDOM, THE TERRITORY
SUBJECT TO THE RULE OF A
KING USED IN THE N.T. TO
REFER TO THE REIGN OF THE
MESSIAH**

- Kingdom

I Peter 2:9-10

**THE KINGDOM IS
ABOUT
COMMUNITY
IDENTITY**

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Second Key Righteousness

Matthew 3:15

Matthew 5:6

Matthew 5:10

Matthew 5:20

Matthew 6:1

Matthew 6:33

Matthew 21:32

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

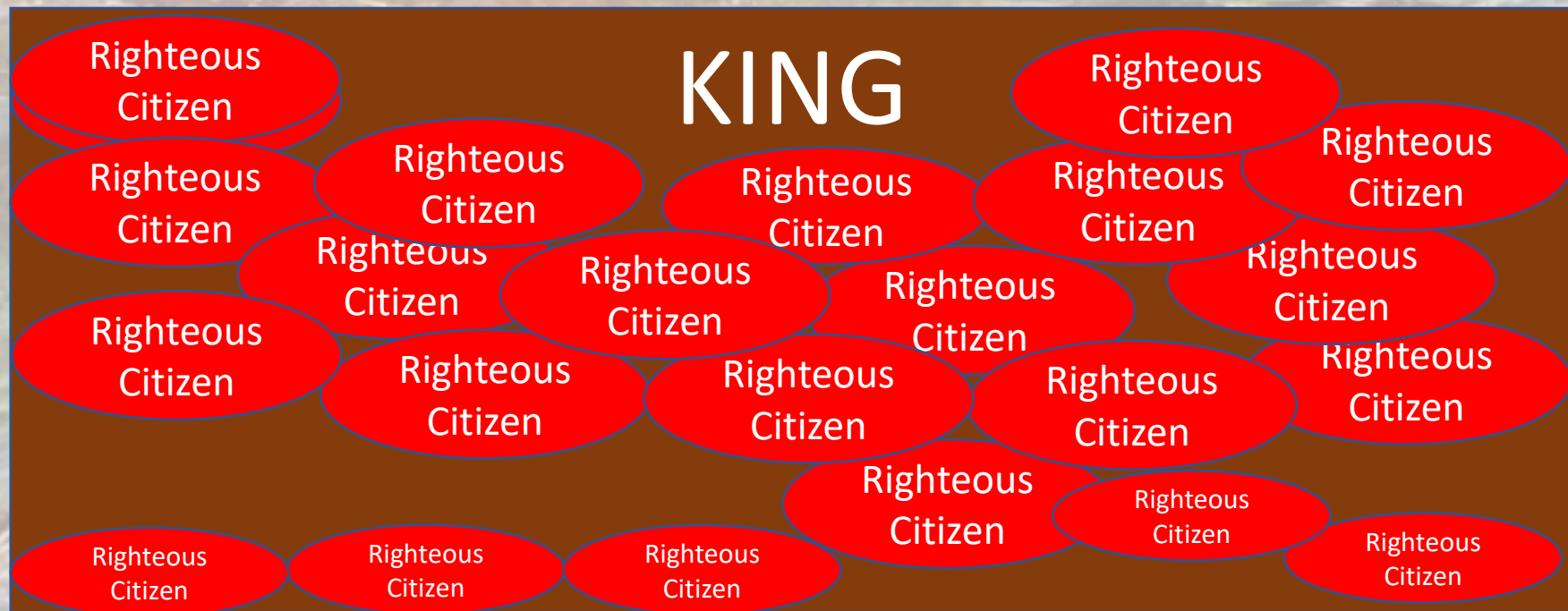
Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all the other things in your life will fall into place.

**RIGHTEOUSNESS IS
ABOUT CITIZEN
IDENTITY**

Our scripture for tonight

- Uses Kingdom three times
- Uses Righteousness one time

Kingdom is about the King not the location



Relationship between the Law and Righteousness and the Kingdom

Matthew 5:17-20

Start with definition of terms

“Do not think that I came to abolish the **Law or the Prophets**; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not ^[a]the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the **Law** until all is accomplished.

¹⁹ Whoever then annuls one of the least of these **commandments**, 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.

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.

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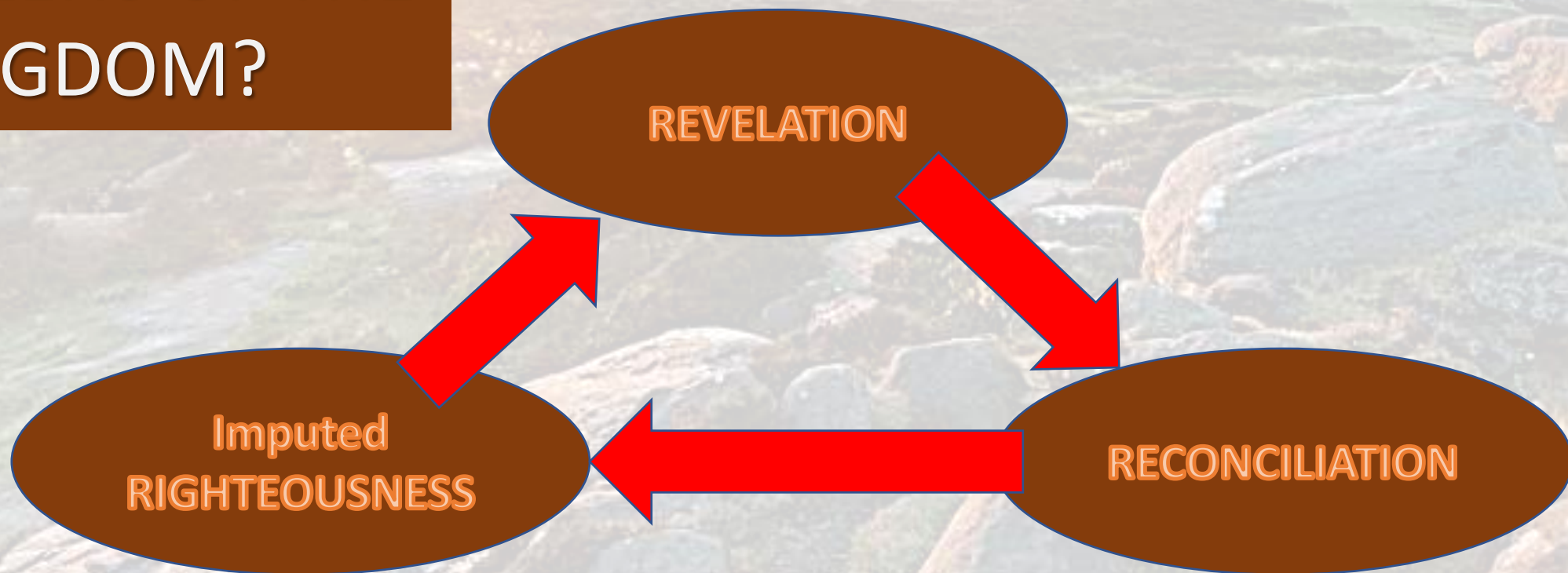
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**HOW ARE WE TO
MANIFEST THE
CHARACTERISTICS
OF CITIZENS OF THE
KINGDOM?**

- This is the question that is answered in Matthew 7:17-20
- Righteousness



What is righteousness as a characteristic of a citizen of the Kingdom?

1. Christ tells us that everything that He teaches is in absolute harmony with the entire teaching of the Old Testament Scriptures and that nothing that He teaches is, in any way, a contradiction of them [Verses 17-18].
2. Secondly, Christ tells us that His teaching, while in harmony with the teaching of the Old Testament, is in complete disharmony with the teaching of the Scribes and Pharisees because His teaching was an utter contradiction of their teaching [Verses 19-20].

A scenic landscape at sunrise or sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow and creating a lens flare effect. The foreground is dominated by large, rounded, reddish-brown rocks. In the background, there is a valley with green fields and a large, flat-topped rock formation or mesa under a sky with soft, wispy clouds.

Prayer Requests

Next week

- Read Matthew 5:21-26 as part of your devotions.
- Make an effort to understand how the 4 parts of the scripture are related: 1) Murder and anger, 2) reactions to citizens, 3) worship requirements and, 4) methods of reconciliation.