

A Note from Pastor Russ

UNDERSTANDING THE “SERMON ON THE MOUNT”

Jesus addresses the Sermon on the Mount to his disciples, and his primary audience is therefore comprised of those who already believe the Good News. Jesus assumes they’re already practicing Christian disciplines. “When you pray,” “When you fast,” “When you give” pepper his instructions. Jesus offers directions for kingdom living, not for kingdom access. He does not say, “Do these things and you will earn the kingdom of heaven,” but, “Do these things because these reflect the ethic of the kingdom to which you belong by faith.” If, therefore, you are a disciple of Jesus by faith, Jesus shows you the heart attributes and practices and lifestyle that ought to characterize you as you walk in and for him.

But Jesus also speaks for a secondary audience, the “crowds,” who overhear his teaching, and who stand amazed at the authority with which he speaks. They already have tasted the good gifts of Jesus’ kingdom, and they will again (Matthew 4:23 and 9:35). In between, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus stresses the ethical demands of his kingdom, teaching that privileges come with responsibilities.

If you already count yourself a disciple of Jesus, then I invite you to listen as one who already stands saved by grace. Compare your own heart and actions and priorities to the kingdom ethic Jesus describes. And if you are not yet Jesus’ disciple, then I invite you to overhear as Jesus, the Son of God, exhorts you with a standard that is beyond your reach, and a grace that is beyond your merit.

In short, I invite you to life in the kingdom.

Russ

Worshiping Christ, Who Fulfills the Law!

JUNE 20, 2021
10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Thema Fugatum (Fugue)* from “Passacaglia in C Minor” J. S. Bach
Dennis Bergin, organ

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ... I Peter 1:2 (KJV)

WELCOME

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP *Jehovah's Perfect Law*

Kyrstan Brantley, soprano; Shelly Hannaford, alto; Bob Nagy, tenor; Brian Roby, bass

Jehovah's perfect law restores the soul again;
His testimony sure gives wisdom unto men;
The precepts of the Lord are right,
And fill the heart with great delight.

They are to be desired above the finest gold;
Than honey from the comb more sweetness far they hold;
With warnings they your servant guard,
In keeping them is great reward.

Whene'er you search my life, may all my thoughts within
And all the words I speak your full approval win.
O Lord, you are a Rock to me,
And my Redeemer you shall be.

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** Psalm 119:89-91, 129-130, 137-138, 142

Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

Pastor: Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

Pastor: By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.

People: **Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.**

Pastor: The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

People: **Righteous are you, O LORD, and right are your rules.**

Pastor: You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

People: **Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is true.**

***O TRUTH UNCHANGED, UNCHANGING! No. 140** *O Word of God Incarnate*

***WE INVOKE HIS PRESENCE**

GOD EXPOSES OUR NEED Psalm 19:7-11

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

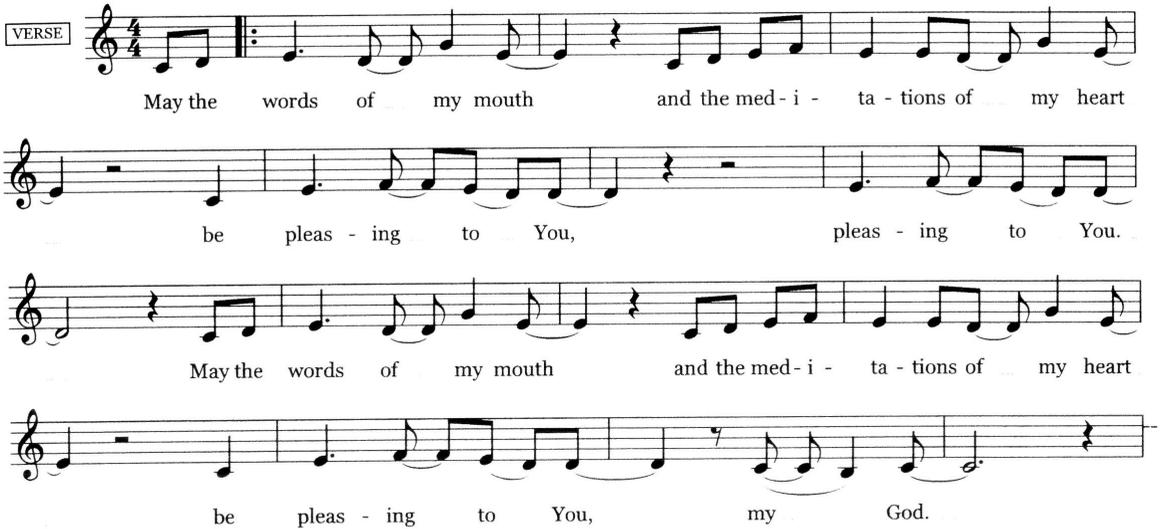
CHRIST PROVIDES FOR OUR NEED Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

***WE DESIRE TO BE A BLESSING IN YOUR EYES!**

Psalm 19

VERSE



May the words of my mouth and the med-i-ta-tions of my heart
be pleas-ing to You, pleas-ing to You.
May the words of my mouth and the med-i-ta-tions of my heart
be pleas-ing to You, my God.

CHORUS



You're my Rock and my Re-deem-er. You're the
rea-son that I sing. I de-sire to be a bless-ing in Your eyes.
Ev-ry hour, ev-ry mo-ment, Lord, I
want to be Your ser-vant. I de-sire to be a bless-ing in Your eyes.
In Your eyes.

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GOD REVEALS, CHRIST STRENGTHENS OUR OBLIGATION TO THE LAW!

Westminster Confession of Faith Modern Version Chapter 19:5-7

Pastor: The moral law... does pertain to everyone, saved and unsaved, forever, not just with respect to its content but also in relationship to the authority of God, the Creator, who gave it.

People: **In the gospel Christ does not in any way remove this obligation, but rather strengthens it.**

Pastor: Although true believers are not justified or condemned by the law as a covenant of works, the law is nevertheless very useful to them and to others.

People: **As a rule of life, it informs them of God's will and of their obligation to obey it.**

Pastor: It also reveals to them the sinful pollution of their nature, hearts, and lives, so that, examining themselves from its point of view, they may become more convinced of the presence of sin in them, more humiliated on account of that sin, and hate sin the more.

People: **Thus they gain a better awareness of their need for Christ and for the perfection of his obedience.**

Pastor: The prohibitions against sin in the law are also useful in restraining believers from pursuing the desires of their old nature, and the punishments for disobedience in the law show them what their sins deserve and what afflictions they may expect for them in this life, even though they have been freed from the curse threatened in the law.

People: **The promises of the law similarly show them that God approves obedience and that blessings may be expected for obedience, although not as their due from the law as a covenant of works.**

Pastor: The fact that the law encourages doing good and discourages doing evil does not mean that a person who does good and refrains from evil is under the law and not under grace.

People: **None of these uses of the law is contrary to the grace of the gospel. They rather beautifully comply with it, because the Spirit of Christ subdues and enables the will of man to do voluntarily and cheerfully what the will of God, revealed in the law, requires to be done.**

***ITS TRUTHS WITH MEEKNESS WE RECEIVE! NO. 141** *God, in the Gospel of His Son*

WE INVOKE HIS HELP Psalm 119:169, 174

Dan Marcotte, Elder

Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word! I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

GOD CALLS US TO STEWARDSHIP Psalm 119:72

The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

WE GIVE OUR GRATEFUL OFFERINGS

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD! *If Ye Love Me*

Kyrstan Brantley, soprano; Shelly Hannaford, alto; Bob Nagy, tenor; Brian Roby, bass; Carrie Smith, piano

If ye love me, keep my commandments and I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter,
That he may bide with you forever,
Ev'n the spirit of truth, ev'n the spirit of truth.

Words: Transcribed and edited by Peter Le Huray; Music: Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585); ©1965 Blanford Press Ltd. All rights reserved.

GOD PROCLAIMS HIS WORD Brett Frey, Seminary Intern

SERMON SERIES "Sermon on the Mount"

SCRIPTURE TEXT Matthew 5:17-20 | page 810 in the pew Bible

SERMON TITLE *Jesus Fulfills the Law*

***WE TO JESUS FOR REFUGE FLEE!**

The Law of God Is Good and Wise

1. The law of God is good and wise and sets his will be - fore our eyes,
2. To those who help in Christ have found and would in works of love a - bound
3. The law is good; but since the fall its hol - i - ness con - demns us all;
4. To Je - sus we for re - fuge flee, who from the curse has set us free,

shows us the way of right - eous - ness, and dooms to death when we trans gress.
it shows what deeds are his de - light and should be done as good and right.
it dooms us for our sin to die and has no pow'r to jus - ti - fy.
and hum - bly wor - ship at his throne, saved by his grace through faith a - lone.

Words: Matthias Loy, 1863; Music: CANONBURY; Robert Schumann

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Reprise: The Law of God is Good and Wise*

