

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a dirt road with tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The terrain is sandy and sparsely covered with small, dry bushes. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is desolate and expansive.

# The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

# Outline to the book of Matthew:

## I. The King Has Come 1:1-13:53

1. *The Incarnation and the preparation of the King 1:1 – 4:11*
2. *The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29*
3. *The Manifestation of the King 8:1 – 11:1*
4. *The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53*

## II. The Kingdom Has Not 13:54-28:20

5. *The Reaction of the King, 13:54 – 19:2*
6. *The Formal Presentation and Rejection of the King, 19:3 – 25:46*
7. *The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of the King, 26:1 – 28:20*

\*\*\*Subpoints follow Stanley Toussaint's seven main divisions outlined in his commentary.

# True Righteousness in the Kingdom context:

## Discourse on true law-keeping:

1. Murder 5:21-26 (corporate)
2. Adultery 5:27-30 (marital)
3. False witness 5:33-37 (personal)

## Discourse on true worship:

1. Giving 6:1-4 (service)
2. Prayer 6:5-15 (fellowship)
3. Fasting 6:16-18 (devotion)

## Discourse on true living:

1. Wealthy living 6:19-24 (priorities)
2. Care-free living 6:25-34 (provision)
3. Self-reflective living 7:1-6 (pride)

# I. THE KING HAS COME 1:1 – 13:53

The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29

(Matthew 7:1-6)

*“How to Judge people”*

## Outline – Following righteous judgment by:

1. Understanding justice vv. 1-2
2. Avoiding hypocrisy vv. 3-5
3. Practicing discernment v. 6

## 3- Practicing discernment v. 6

### A. Observations:

- The proverb v. 6a
  - “Do not give what is holy to the dogs;”
  - “nor cast your pearls before swine,”
  - Both word pictures communicate at least two things:
    - 1) Discernment
    - 2) Worth while ministry.
      - (Shouldn't we minister in any situation?)
      - cf. Matthew 10:14; ch. 13
      - cf. 2 Timothy 2:14-18, 23-26

## 3- Practicing discernment v. 6

### A. Observations:

- The proverb v. 6a
- The consequence v. 6b
  - “lest they trample them under their feet,”
  - “and turn and tear you in pieces.”
  - The imagery here is someone rejecting what you offer and turning against you personally.

## 3- Practicing discernment v. 6

### B. Summary/Application:

- Jesus' audience was to practice discernment in who they offer help to.
- Believers today should follow this principle and focus their ministry efforts on those who are seeking.
- Finding this line of who to avoid and who to focus on takes discernment. IT might look different for people!
- Illustration: Paul and Barnabas.
- Illustration: Michael Parmenter and I.



# I. THE KING HAS COME 1:1 – 13:53

The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29

(Matthew 7:7-12)

*“Living as a child of God”*

## Outline – Living as a child of God by:

1. Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8
2. Giving as a father vv. 9-10
3. Understanding the Father v. 11
4. Living like the Father v. 12

## 1 - Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8

### A. Observations:

- The commands: v. 7

1) Ask = **and it will be given to you;**

- Present, active, imperative
- Αἰτεῖτε = to make a request to God.

2) Seek = **and you will find;**

- Present, active, imperative
- Ζητεῖτε = to pursue with intention

3) Knock = **and it will be opened to you.**

- Present, active, imperative
- Κρούετε = to deliver a blow against something

## 1 - Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8

### A. Observations:

- The commands: v. 7
- The promise v. 8
  - The asking one = receives,
  - The seeking one = finds,
  - The knocking one = it will be opened.
  - The modifiers to all of these were stated already: see Mt. 6:5-15; 6:33
  - Also: review prerequisites to prayer

# The Prerequisites to Prayer

## III. The prerequisites to prayer:

### **A. The prerequisites –**

Prerequisite #1 - Willing to obey the Scriptures. John 15:7; I John 3:22

Prerequisite #2 - Examine motives. James 4:3

Prerequisite #3 - Examine relationships. Matthew 6:14-15; Mark 11:25-26

Prerequisite #4 - Deal with sin. Psalm 66:18; Isaiah 59:1-2; Jeremiah 11:10-11; I John 1:6, 9

Prerequisite #5 – Guard against Pharisaism. Matthew 6:5-8; Luke 18:9-14

Prerequisite #6 - Examine the marriage. I Peter 3:1-7

Prerequisite #7 - Examine your faith. James 1:5-7; Mark 11:20-24

# 1- Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8

## B. Summary/Application:

- Jesus urged His audience to pursue the Father this is done through prayer and lifestyle. The two are intimately linked.
- The obstacles to pursuing the Father are:
  - Self
  - Legalism
  - Worldliness
  - Worry
  - Flesh
  - The enemy

## Outline – Living as a child of God by:

1. Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8
2. Giving as a father vv. 9-10
3. Understanding the Father v. 11
4. Living like the Father v. 12

## 2- Giving as a father vv. 9-10

### A. Observations:

- The rhetorical questions: vv. 9-10
  - “What man is there among you who,”
    - 1) “if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?”
    - 2) “Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent?”
  - These questions highlight the obvious desire that fathers have in responding and providing for their children.
  - This is a leading question.
  - It is also a question that has implied stipulations.
    - i.e. a parent will not give what is not beneficial.



## 2- Giving as a father vv. 9-10

### B. Summary/Application:

- Man is made in God's image.
- There exists comparative like attributes in the people He created.
- Our earthly relationships can highlight certain attributes.
- Ex. Parental (loyal love, guidance, correction, provision)
- Ex. Spousal, (loyal love, kindness, closeness)
- Ex. Individual, (intellect, emotion, will)
- Ex. Corporate (Church unity and the trinity)
- God is infinite and perfect in all His attributes, all the time.
- Mankind is not... but we can relate to the good within these examples.

## Outline – Living as a child of God by:

1. Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8
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3. Understanding the Father v. 11
4. Living like the Father v. 12

## 3- Understanding the Father v. 11

### A. Observations:

- The comparison v. 11
  - The contrast: “if you then, being evil,”
  - The understanding: “know how to give good gifts to your children,”
    - “know” perfect, active, indicative = “you have known and still know...”
  - The comparison: “How much more will your Father Who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him?”
    - This is a lesser to greater argument.

## 3- Understanding the Father v. 11

### B. Summary/Application:

- The sinfulness of man impacts our vertical relationship and horizontal relationships.
- Yet we often know the good to do because of being made in God's image.
- Knowing doesn't necessarily lead to doing. (cf. Rom. 7:13-23)
- Jesus argues that if we know how to answer our children as fallible humans, how much more will the perfect infallible Father in heaven know how to answer you?

## Outline – Living as a child of God by:

1. Pursuing the Father vv. 7-8
2. Giving as a father vv. 9-10
3. Understanding the Father v. 11
4. Living like the Father v. 12

## 4- Living like the Father v. 12

### A. Observations:

- The conclusion v. 12a
  - “Therefore,”
  - “whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them,”
    - This is another way of stating the “royal law”
    - “Love the Lord... and love your neighbor.”
    - The restatement emphasizes the “lex-talionic” aspect.
    - This summary seems to compile all aspects of this sermon.  
Mt. 5-7.
  - “for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

## 4- Living like the Father v. 12

### B. Summary/Application:

- The summation of the Law and prophets is the vertical and horizontal lifestyle of love.
- The lex-talionic principle, underscores the reality of God's system of justice.
- God executes perfect justice so we should expect creation to resemble that.
- And so, it does... The Bible uses the expression: “reaping and sowing”



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