

# The Preaching Ministry of Christ

Sermon 7 in the Matthew Series

## Matthew 4:18-5:12

Historical/Grammatical interpretation.

**Historical** = what was happening at the time of the writing of the particular book?

**Grammatical** = what the words actually mean. Exegesis

We also need to use a Historical/Redemptive method.

By **Historical** this time we mean – What was God doing, in the history of redemption – as this particular Scripture was written?

**Redemptive** – How the unfolding drama of Redemption was actually revealed.

### I. The Vital Importance of Obedience 4:18-22

#### A. Immediate Obedience

Peter and Andrew – along with John and James had already become disciples of Jesus – but now – called by Jesus himself – they leave their prosperous fishing business and their families and follow the Lord exclusively.

#### B. The Vital Importance of Witnessing

Andrew followed Jesus because of the testimony of John the Baptist  
Who then brought Peter to Christ -- **John 1:40-42**

Philip followed Jesus and brought Nathaniel (Bartholomew) – **John 1:43-46**

John was directed to Jesus by John the Baptist and brought his brother James

### II. The Popularity and Success of His Ministry 4:23-25

The people who sat in darkness saw a great light!

For almost a year – he dealt with the northern regions of Israel, primarily around the region of Galilee.

v. **23-25** – He healed all who came to him with their afflictions.

We will deal with this in depth when we get to chapters 8 and 9.

In chapters 5-7 we have a sample sermon from Jesus – and a message that was just right for that day – and is STILL just right for ours. It is the message of the Kingdom of God – and as Christians – that is the kingdom where we live under the rule and reign of King Jesus – King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

### III. The Beatitudes Matt. 5:1-12

#### A. Eight “blessed are” and the reward attached to each

1. Blessed are the poor in Spirit
2. Blessed are they that mourn
3. Blessed are the meek
4. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness
5. Blessed are the merciful
6. Blessed are the pure in heart
7. Blessed are the peacemakers
8. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake

These beatitudes are not meant to be isolated, separate entities or goals to attain separately, but a total description of how we – as new creatures – are to live under the rule of King Jesus in the midst of an evil and wicked world.

Notice – “Kingdom of Heaven” as the bookmarks between #1 and #8.

These beatitudes come to us as a total package – and we are to incorporate every aspect of these “beatitudes” into our life.

#### B. The Tension between the Already and the Not Yet

#### C. Blessings and Woes -- Luke 6:20-26

There are 4 specific blessings and 4 specific woes given

1. The Poor (Matt.– poor in spirit) -- yours is the Kingdom of Heaven
2. The Hungry (hunger and thirst for righteousness) – you shall be filled
3. The Weepers (those who mourn) – you shall laugh
4. The Persecuted – your reward is in Heaven

Contrast that with

1. The Rich (or the self-sufficient) – already received their compensation
2. The Full (the complacent) – you shall hunger
3. Those who Laugh now – you will mourn and weep
4. The Popular – join the company of the false prophets