



10-Minute Bible Lesson *Excessive Righteousness* Matthew 5:17-20

Before watching the video: What do you already know about the Sermon on the Mount? What teachings from it might you know already? What are you most curious about regarding these chapters?

Now read the passage twice. Take each one at a time, noticing every sentence and phrase. You may even want to start and stop the video to spend more time with each. What stands out to you?

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. – **Matthew 5:13-16**

After watching the video: What strikes you or makes you uncomfortable or challenges you about this passage? How do you react as you read Jesus’ statements about righteousness exceeding the Pharisees’?

What have you been taught or what do you know about the Pharisees as a group from past Bible teachings or sermons? How might the video differ or be the same as what you’ve learned?

Read ahead a little to see what Jesus had in mind when making these statements. Does it help at all?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with “amen.”