



## The Christian's Relationship to the Old Testament

Matthew 5:17-20

- 1) Introduction
  - a) The beatitudes (5:3-12) speak of the Christian's inner character
  - b) The effects of the Christian's inner character result in salt and light
  - c) The kingdom of heaven is about radical righteousness
- 2) God became flesh to fulfill all the tenets of the OT (5:17)
  - a) Jesus was born under the Law
  - b) Jesus is the Substance of the shadow of the Law (Col. 2:16-17)
  - c) Jesus kept every Law in the Mosaic Law perfectly
  - d) Jesus fulfilled, and is fulfilling, every OT prophecy
- 3) The OT is immutable, fully inspired by God and without error (5:18)
  - a) Every jot, every tittle is meaningful
  - b) OT is as enduring as the heavens and earth
- 4) Every part of the Bible is authoritative and effective for teaching truth (5:19)
  - a) Those who teach Scripture accurately are called "great" in heaven
  - b) Those who disregard or hold Scripture loosely are called "least" in heaven
- 5) Only those whose righteousness transcends legalism will enter God's kingdom
  - a) Legalism seeks to please God with good works
  - b) Christianity seeks to thank God with good works
- 6) Conclusions
  - a) Cannot understand the OT without the NT, and vice versa
  - b) Cannot teach God's word without first reading it cover to cover
  - c) Cannot please God with outward acts without a heart devoted to Him
  - d) We can (and do!) please God by simply trusting in Christ alone for salvation