

Through the New Testament

Matthew 7:1-12

“The Sermon on Righteousness” (Pt. 7)

Introduction:

- The NT was divided into “chapters” around AD 1244.
- NT “verse” designations were developed around AD 1555.
- Chapter/verse divisions are *not inspired*.
- The KJV (AD 1611) adopted the chapter/verse designations which, logical or not, remain to this day.
- To understand the structure of the Sermon on the Mount, *chapter divisions* should look like this:

Chapter 5 (Should be 5:1-16)

Key words: “Good works”

The teaching: “Blessings are experienced by those who keep the *spirit* of the Law and the Prophets.”

The practice: “Therefore, let *your* light shine...” (5:16).

Chapter 6 (Should be 5:17 – 7:12)

Key words: “The Law and the Prophets” (book ended)

The teaching: “Your righteousness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees. Here’s how.”

The practice: “*Do not*” do these things (lawful or not) and instead, do these things.

- *Do not* think I came to abolish the Law... (5:17-20)
- *Do not* even be angry with your brother (5:21-26)
- *Do not* commit adultery in your heart (5:27-30)
- *Do not* make a mockery of divorce (5:31-32)
- *Do not* make promises you can’t keep (5:33-37)
- *Do not* return evil for evil (return good) (5:38-42)
- *Do not* hate your enemies (love them instead) (5:43-48)
- *Do not* tithe to receive recognition from others (6:1-4)
- *Do not* pray to receive recognition from others (6:5-15)
- *Do not* fast to receive recognition from others (6:16-18)
- *Do not* rely on earthly treasures (6:19-24)
- *Do not* worry about your daily needs (6:25-34)
- *Do not* judge (_____) others (7:1-5)
- *Do not* waste this message on _____ (7:6)

The Summary (of *chapter 6*):

1. All these things...
 - that is, to fulfill the spirit of the Law...
 - that is, to surpass the righteousness of the Pharisees...
 - your heavenly Father wants for you.
 - Therefore, _____!
2. The simplest way to sum it up is this (the underlying principle):
“Treat others _____.”
3. In this way, you will...

Fulfill _____.

Fulfill _____.

“But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God” (Rom. 2:29)

“Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter (of the Law) but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” (2 Cor. 3:5-6)