

NT WEEK 6—Jesus Renewer of God’s Original Intentions



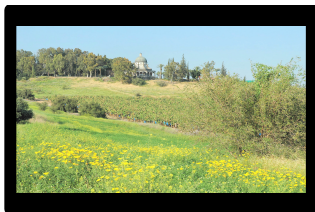
Site of Sermon on the Mount with Church of the Beatitudes at top.

Remez: “Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside ...” (Matt 5.1)
What does this remind us of? Were the disciples supposed to “get it?”

Observations from the Gospel of Matthew Distortions of Law, Exceptionalism & Tradition

Jesus restores the original intention of God’s OT law, exceptionalism, and traditions.

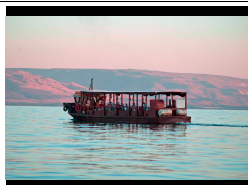
BIG IDEA 1: Distorted use of the Law—Matt 5



Distorted use of the Law—Matt 5

Sabbath healing, The dispute with the Lawyer (Good Sam); Disciples picking grain:
Discussion-- What prompted Jesus to speak the words of Mk 2: 27? The Sabbath was made for humankind, not the humankind for the Sabbath.

BIG IDEA 2: MISUNDERSTANDING OF “EXCEPTIONALISM”



Misunderstanding of “Exceptionalism”—Woman at the Well. Travel schedule—see geography exercise. The Abrahamic Covenant: “in you all the nations of the earth will be blessed.” How is God’s intention about “exceptionalism” exhibited by the places where Jesus does significant teaching?

BIG IDEA 3: IMPROPER EMPHASIS ON “TRADITIONS” FOR THE SAKE OF “TRADITION.”



- Improper emphasis on “traditions” for the sake of “tradition.”
Matt 15, Mark 7

GO over the Homework on MATTHEW: LISTS of *Distortions, Exceptionalism and Traditions*

Do some geography: extra credit if you plot these on the map.

- **ADD THIS:** When Jesus stills the storm on Galilee, where is he headed? /Matt 8. 23-28, Mark 4.35-5.20 & Luke 8. 22-39 across the sea to Gadarenes or Gerasenes.
- Where does Jesus feed the 5000 Matt 14 and parallels? Luke 9.10 Bethsaida
- When Jesus walks on water, to where is he headed? Matt 14.34-36/ Genessaret
- Then what subject does Jesus address? Matt 15. 1-20; Mark 7
- Then where is Jesus when he is “pestered” by the Syrophenician woman? Tyre & Sidon
- Where does he go from there and what does he do? Matt. 15. 29-31 & Mark 7. 31-37 Decapolis
- Where does Jesus feed the 4000? Mark 8. 1-10 Decapolis then left for Dalmanbutha, plain of Genessaret
- Where does Jesus heal the blind man in Mark 8.22 f? Bethsaida
- Why does Jesus use the “sign of the prophet Jonah” at this time? Matt 16.4
- Where is Jesus when Peter makes his momentous Confession? Caesarea Philippi
- Where is Jesus for the transfiguration? Matt 17.1-9, Mark 9. 2-10 and Luke 9. 28-36 Mt Hermon

What’s the point?

Questions:

React to how disciples wanted to treat the woman in Matthew 15. 21-28. What were the factors?

Discussion:

- 1 Was Jesus capable of righteous indignation?
2. What prompted Jesus to speak the words of Mk 2: 27? The Sabbath was made for humankind, not the humankind for the Sabbath.
3. Would you consider it rather strange that Jesus' disciples wanted nothing to do with the Canaanite woman and her plight as noted in Mt. 15. 21-28? Disciples asked that he send her away because she keeps shouting after them.
4. Relate the following to the Jews' distorted understanding of the meaning of exceptionalism:
Mt 5.13-15: You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?
You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill can not be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
Lk 8. 16-21 Lamp on a lampstand, not under a jar, or bed. ... Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away. Jesus true kindred are those who hear the word of God and do it.
If Jesus can take exception from his own family on the basis of the hearing and doing of God's will, how great a distance should there be between a people of God who do his will and those who do not do his will?
Lk 14. 34 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?
10. 29-37 Parable of the Good Samaritan
5. ***Did Jesus abolish exceptionalism?*** Or was he just realistic about the manner and the means in which reform takes place?
Mt 10. 5-6 Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel
Mt 12. 15-21-- Matthew quotes Isaiah: he will proclaim justice to Gentiles ...and in his name the Gentiles will hope.
Jn 4-- Jesus talks with Samaritan woman at the well
Mt 8. 5-13 Centurion's servant healed
8. 28ff Gadarene demoniacs healed
Mt 15.21-22 Canaanite woman [Syrophoenician]
Mt 28.18-20 go into all the world and teach all nations
6. ***In your opinion, is it possible to grasp the significance of much that Jesus says and does apart from an understanding of the Old Testament?***

ASSIGNMENT FOR NT WEEK 7

Read Matthew again and this time make notes of the things that Jesus teaches in your own words,.

Using these references, note in writing what makes Jesus' teaching different from the other teachers in his day (Sadducees, Scribes, Pharisees, lawyers, etc.): Jn 3.31-35; Matt 7.28; Luke 4.32; 19.47-48.

To what extent are the nature, purpose and will of God revealed apart Jesus Christ? Discuss in your writing based at least on John 14.8-11; Hebrews 1. 1-2 and John 17. 1-26.

MARKERS

Matt 14, Mark 6 & John 6	Jesus walks on water
Matt 15 & Mark 7	Correction on "ritual purity"
Matt 16, Mark 8, Luke 9	Peter's Great Confession—On this Rock
Matt 17, Mark 9, Luke 9	Transfiguration
Luke 10	Greatest Command –Good Samaritan
Matt 18, Luke 15	Lost Sheep
Luke 15	Lost coin, Lost Son
Luke 16	Shrewd manager, rich man and Lazarus