

BASIC OUTLINE for the Sermon on the Mount

(Adapted from insights in The Theology of the Gospel of Matthew, by Ulrich Luz)

- I. Introduction Matthew 5:3-16
 - a. THEMES: Identity & Purpose, An Intro to the Pathway of Righteousness
 - i. Beatitudes – 5:3-12
 - ii. Salt & Light – 5:13-16
- II. Antithesis 5:17-48
 - a. THEMES: Practicing an Inward Righteousness, Love and Reconciliation
 - i. Intro to Antitheses – this is a heightening of Torah (Old Testament) – 5:17-20
 - ii. Antithesis – In terms of outward righteousness – What must I do?
 - 1. Anger & Reconciliation – 5:21-26
 - 2. Desire & Dignity – 5:27-32
 - 3. Our Words & Honor – 5:33-37
 - 4. Suffering, Generosity & Peace – 5:38-42
 - 5. Loving our Enemies – 5:43-47
 - iii. Conclusion to Antithesis – this is the pathway to perfection – 5:48
- III. Central Text 6:1-18
 - a. THEMES: Humility and Prayer as Central to the Practice of Inward Righteousness
 - i. Intro – Piety & Humility – 6:1
 - ii. Giving – 6:2-4
 - iii. Prayer – 6:5-8
 - 1. The Lord’s Prayer – 6:9-13
 - 2. The importance of forgiveness – 6:14-15
 - iv. Fasting – 6:16-18
- IV. Epilogue 6:19-7:12
 - a. THEMES: Superior Righteousness & the Choices we must Make, God’s Response,
 - i. Relating to Earthly Possessions – 6:19-34
 - ii. Not Judging or Controlling Others – 7:1-6
 - iii. God’s Response to our Seeking – 7:7-11
 - iv. Conclusion to Epilogue: The Golden Rule – 7:12
- V. Conclusion 7:13-29
 - a. THEMES: The Importance of Doing the Work and Following the Path
 - b. Three Warnings
 - i. The Narrow Gate - 7:13-14
 - ii. False Prophets – 7:15-20
 - iii. The importance of Action / The house on rock – 7:21-27
 - c. Conclusion – Amazement of Crowds in the Authority of Jesus – 7:28-29