

Walking Through the Mount

From Conversion to Completion – Matthew 5:3-16

Introduction: Rodney Smith, a 19th century British preacher, once said, “There are five gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the Christian, but most people never read the first four.”

In His book, The Fifth Gospel, Bobby Conway put it this way, “The Fifth Gospel is “another” Gospel, not in addition to the four found in Scripture, but instead a living incarnation of them. Not an inspired Gospel, but an inspiring one. This was Jesus’ original intention, for ordinary people like us to live inspiring lives, pointing others to the only message, the only Person, who can give them hope for not only this life but also the next.”

Body: If I would be a living gospel, I must...

1. Be Poor in Spirit (v 3)
 - a. Bereft and bankrupt of pride and self sufficiency.
 - b. Recognizing my spiritual helplessness.

2. Mourn Over My Sin (v 4)
 - a. Psalm 51:1-4
 - b. Isaiah 6:1-5
 - c. Luke 22:54-62

3. Exhibit Meekness (v 5)
 - a. Meekness = strength under control.
 - b. Meekness requires submissively doing things God’s way:
 - i. 2 Kings 5
 - ii. Both Judas and Peter mourned over their sins, but only one exhibited meekness.
 - iii. A meek person does not argue with God.

4. Have an Insatiable Desire for Righteousness (v 6)
 - a. Not for revenge - Matthew 5:38-39, Romans 14:19-21
 - b. Not for comfort or financial security - Luke 9:57-58
 - c. But for Righteousness = what is right, equitable, just

5. Show Mercy (v 7)
 - a. Those who appreciate salvation are also merciful - Matt 18:22-35
 - b. Micah 6:6-8 - What does the Lord require of you?

6. Be Pure in Heart (v 8)
 - a. 1 Peter 1:15-16
 - b. Hebrews 12:14

7. Pursue Peace (v 9)
 - a. Romans 12:18
 - b. 1 Peter 3:10-12

8. Endure in Every Circumstance (v 10-12)
 - a. Matthew 10:22
 - b. Revelation 2:10

Conclusion: If I am a Living Gospel...

1. I will be salt (v 13) = influence
2. I will be light (v 14-16) = illuminating
3. Paul said he wanted to magnify Christ in his body whether in life or in death. This is what it means to be a living gospel.