

*Your Best Life Now*  
*Matthew 5:1*



# The Sermon on the Mount

- **Matthew 5:1** - Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

# Which is Biblically Correct



# Authority and Respect

- **Mark 1:27** - And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.”
- **Matthew 28:18** - And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- **Philippians 2:9-11** - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# Woe to Scribes and Pharisees

- **Matthew 23:13-15** - <sup>13</sup> “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in. <sup>15</sup> Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell<sup>l</sup> as yourselves.

*The Holy Scriptures  
are the Authority.*

*Not the speaker.*



# Simon the Sorcerer vs Philip

- **Acts 8:9-13** - <sup>9</sup> But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. <sup>10</sup> They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the power of God that is called Great.” <sup>11</sup> And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. <sup>12</sup> But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. <sup>13</sup> Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

# The Word of God

- **Hebrews 4:12** - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- YOU WILL NOT LISTEN TO A MESSAGE FROM SOMEONE OR SOMETHING THAT YOU DO NOT RESPECT OR RECOGNIZE AS A LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY IN YOUR LIFE.



# Willingness to Listen and Change

- **Mark 4:23-25** - If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.” And he said to them, “**Pay attention to what you hear**: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”
- **Matthew 13:15** - For this people's heart has grown dull, **and with their ears they can barely hear**, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’

# The Example of Peter

- **John 6:68-69** - Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life,** <sup>69</sup> and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

# Consequences of Listening to the World

- **2 Thessalonians 2:11-12** - <sup>11</sup> Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, <sup>12</sup> in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

# Change – Leave the Past Behind

- **Romans 12:2** - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- **Philippians 3:13-16** - <sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. <sup>16</sup> Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

# The Foundation of Your Best Life Now

- **Matthew 7:24-27** - <sup>24</sup> “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”