

READ

Matthew 5:17-20

CONSIDER

Many people struggle to understand the Old Testament and how it connects with Jesus. They see the text as violent, patriarchal, genocidal while painting a picture of a cruel, angry, vengeful God. Over time, many Christians start to disregard the Old Testament because it seems incompatible with our modern senses.

After opening the Sermon on the Mount explaining the values (the Beatitudes) and the witness (salt and light) of the kingdom, Jesus dives into the heart of His teaching by taking us back to the Old Testament and showing us that He is the fulfillment of Scripture.

Come join us this week as we wrestle with some challenging aspects of the Old Testament and how to make sense of it in light of Christ.

Resources that I will reference in my sermon this week

The Gospel Coalition Commentary series for each book of the Bible. [Click here.](#)

Tim Keller article on how to interpret Old Testament laws. [Click here.](#)

See you all Sunday,

Pastor Tim Sreedharan

PRAY

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.” (Matt 7:24-25)

Father, help us to be a people who take your words, from the Old & New Testament and live them out. Show us how to live out the values of the kingdom so that we may be salt and light in this dark world. Help us daily to see how you are the fulfillment of the law and teach us to walk in your ways. Amen.

DIVING DEEPER



WEEK 2

FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW

MATTHEW

5:17-20

- **Note:** The phrase the Law and the Prophets is a synonym for all of the Old Testament (see Matt 22:40; Luke 16:16, Acts 13:15).
- **How** would you explain the connection between the Old & New Testament to a non-Christian? Why do many people struggle to understand and accept the teachings of the Old Testament? How does v18 challenge our understanding?
- **Read 5:17 & 7:12.** Both use the phrase “the Law and/or the Prophets.” This is an inclusio, meaning that everything in between pertains to the Law & the Prophets (i.e. the entire Old Testament). How are we supposed to understand the Old Testament in light of this (see Rom 10:4)?
- **How** does v19 connect the Law and the Prophets with the Kingdom of God?
- **Jesus fulfills** the requirements of the Old Testament & it is through faith that we obtain His righteousness (read Romans 3:21-24). What does Matt 5:20 teach us about the nature of salvation and how we enter into God’s Kingdom?