

DE 5310 | THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

3 sem. hrs.

I. Course Description

This course is an expository and reading study of the Sermon on the Mount with emphasis on the practical and spiritual application and upon the theological issues and various interpretations therein.

II. Course Objectives

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- A. Appreciate the message of the Sermon on the Mount as God's Word for our salvation and growth.
- B. Explain the special theological difficulties raised by the Sermon on the Mount.
- C. Propose solutions to the theological difficulties raised by the Sermon on the Mount.
- D. Compare and contrast the ways the Pharisees handled the law with the way Christ fulfilled the law.
- E. Apply key principles from the Sermon to contemporary life and ministry.
- F. Honor God with your life by being different from the world.

III. Course Materials

All required course materials can be purchased through the **TEDS bookstore (800.456.7323/ 847.317.6800)**.

- A. Stott, John. *The Sermon on the Mount*, Audio lecture series and Interactive Learning Guide. Grand Rapids, MI: Institute of Theological Studies, a division of OUTREACH, INC., 1986, 2000.
- B. Carson, D. A. *Jesus and the Sermon and His Confrontation with the World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2004 or 1999. *Note: Part One (on Matthew 5-7) of this book is required reading and Part Two (on Matthew 8-10) is optional.*
- C. Patte, Daniel. *The Challenge of Discipleship: A Critical Study of the Sermon on the Mount as Scripture*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity International Press, 1999.

IV. Course Requirements

A. Book Evaluations

For each of the textbooks, the student will write a 6-9 page critical evaluation. The evaluation will follow the format listed below. "Critical evaluation" means that the student is to read the entire text carefully and thoughtfully, with a view to analyzing the author's strengths and weaknesses relative to the demonstration of his main thesis(es). Papers should utilize the following guidelines:

1-2 pages of summary, synthesizing the author's overall message, noting his purpose for writing and the book's main thesis(es). This is not a "book report." Do not merely "restate" the book's contents.

3-4 pages of critical ("evaluative") interaction with the book's content, noting the strengths and weaknesses of the author's arguments as related to the book's main thesis(es). Here, the student will point out areas of agreement/disagreement with the author, including reasoned judgment as to reasons for agreement/disagreement.

2-3 pages of synthesis, articulating an understanding of how the text has helped or will help the student in personal life and ministry.

B. Term Paper

The student will write a 10-12 page paper on any theme in the Sermon in which Christ and the Pharisees interpreted the Law differently. The student will consider this theme in its Old Testament context and discuss where the Pharisees erred in their interpretation. He/she will then explain Christ's teaching, considering how Christ both corrected Pharisaical teaching and fulfilled the Law himself. The paper should be written with a view to make relevant contemporary applications of Christ's teaching. The student should investigate the theme in at least ten 10 sources other than Scripture and annotate them properly in the paper.

C. TriNet Online Discussion

The student is required to participate in the discussion areas of TriNet. Thoughtful responses should be given to at least one question in each discussion area, and responses to the comments of other students are encouraged.

D. Final Exam

At the end of the course the student will take a closed-book exam. The exam will be a cumulative exam, covering all ten lectures.

All assignments should be submitted directly to your Course Tutor using the Submit Work icon within your TriNet course. Exams should be mailed by your proctor to the address below. Course work may be submitted by mail if necessary.

Distance Education
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
2065 Half Day Road
Deerfield, IL 60015

For help formatting your papers, feel free to reference the *TIU Style and Format Guide* which can be obtained from the Distance Education office. You may contact us to obtain these at 800.588.7705, ext. 6554/847.317.6554 or email the Distance Education office.

If you have questions related to your assignments, please contact your Course Tutor in TriNet. All other questions should be directed to the Distance Education office (email or 847-317-6554).

V. Course Grading

Book Evaluations	30% (15% each)
Term Paper	40%
TriNet Discussion	5%
Final Exam	25%

VI. Course Bibliography

- Allen, Lloyd. "The Sermon on the Mount in the History of the Church." *Review and Expositor* 89 (1992), 245-262.
- Allison, Dale C., Jr. "The Eye is the Lamp of the Body (Matthew 6:22-23 = Luke 11:34-36)." *New Testament Studies* 33 (1987), 61-83.
- "Jesus and Moses (Matthew 5:1-2)." *The Expository Times* 98 (1987), 203-205.
- Allison, Dale C., Jr, and W. D. Davies. *Matthew I-VIII*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1988.
- Bauer, David R., and Mark Allan Powell, eds. *Treasures New and Old: Recent Contributions to Matthean Studies* (Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series 1). Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1996.
- Bauman, Clarence. *The Sermon on the Mount: The Modern Quest for its Meaning*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1985.
- Betz, H. D. *The Sermon on the Mount* (Hermeneia). Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995.

- Bruner, Frederick Dale. *The Christbook* (Matthew 1-12). Waco: Word, Inc., 1987.
- Carson, D. A. *The Sermon on the Mount: An Evangelical Exposition of Mathew 5-7*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1982.
- Cranford, Lorin L. "Bibliography for the Sermon on the Mount." *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 35 (1992), 34-38.
- Davies, W. D. *The Setting of the Sermon on the Mount*. Cambridge: University Press, 1977.
- France, R. T. *Matthew: Evangelist and Teacher*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989.
- Grayston, Kenneth. "The Decline of Temptation -- And the Lord's Prayer." *Scottish Journal of Theology* 46 (1993), 279-295.
- Guelich, Robert A. *The Sermon on the Mount: A Foundation for Understanding*. Waco: Word, Inc., 1982.
- Hagner, Donald A. "Balancing the Old and the New. The Law of Moses in Matthew and Paul." *Interpretation* 51 (1997), 20-30.
- Ito, Akio. "The Question of the Authenticity of the Ban on Swearing (Matthew 5:33-37)." *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 43 (1991), 5-13.
- Keener, Craig S. "Matthew 5:22 and the Heavenly Court." *Expository Times* 99 (1987), 46.
- , *A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Meier, John P. *The Vision of Matthew: Christ, Church and Morality in the First Gospel*. New York: Paulist Press, 1979.
- Meyer, Ben F. *Five Speeches that Changed the World*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1994.
- Ray, Charles A., Jr. "The Beatitudes: Challenging Worldviews." *Theological Educator* 46 (1992), 97-104.
- Smith, Chistopher R. "Literary Evidence of a Fivefold Structure in the Gospel of Matthew." *New Testament Studies* 43 (1997), 540-551.
- Songer, Harold S. "The Sermon on the Mount and its Jewish Foreground." *Review and Expositor* 89 (1992), 165-177.
- Stanton, Graham N. "Sermon on the Mount/Plain," in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*, ed. Joel B. Green, Scot McKnight and I. Howard Marshall. Downers Grove: IVP, 1992, pages 735-744.

-----, ed. *The Interpretation of Matthew*. 2nd Edition. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1995.

Stassen, Glenn H. "Grace and Deliverance in the Sermon on the Mount." *Review and Expositor* 89 (1992), 229-244.

Stefanovic, Zdravko. "'One Greater than the Temple' -- The Sermon on the Mount in the Early Palestinian Liturgical Setting." *Asia Journal of Theology* 6 (1992), 108-116.

Stevens, Gerald L. "Understanding the Sermon on the Mount: Its Rabbinic and New Testament Context." *Theological Educator* 46 (1992), 83-95.

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