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| week 5 CCG STUDY GUIDENice to meet youWelcome!Understanding the sermonWhat did He say?Examining the wordText without context is pretext!Abolish/FULFILLthe Fulfillment of the LawEntering the kingdomHow can it be?DON’T relax |

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| the LawMatt 5:13 Jim rosenquist May 27, 2018 |

Getting to know youHave you ever bought something matching with someone or were forced by a family member to wear matching outfits?This weeks verseThis Week's verse: Matthew 5:17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.Surveying you notes from the sermon, was there something that stuck out? Was there anything you heard for the first time, challenged you, confused you?in context If we look at the "Sermon on the Mount" as a whole, you could classify Matt 5:1-16 as an introduction. This introduction can be seen as an encouragement. We read in the Beatitudes Jesus's encouragement to his listeners telling them they are blessed, and that they are blessed for things that we all can experience or perform. For example, being poor in spirit, mourning, meekness, mercy, purity, peacemaker, and persecution. He then tells us what we are in the next verses, salt and light. These encouraging words should be remembered later in the sermon because of the hard commands given later. How can you see verses Matt 5:2-16 an encouragement?In what ways have these verses encouraged you to change or act differently in your lives today?Why he cameJesus starts of the meat of the sermon with a proclamation about the law. He is setting the record straight because in the next portion of the sermon he going to supernaturally add to the word of God as only Jesus as God can do. This sermon would have been a world view changer to the disciples and it is a world changer for those that hear it today. We see the people's reaction in Matthew 5:28 "And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, 29 for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes." Matt 5:17 Jesus states "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets"; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.Watch this video clip to better understand the law. (The Bible Project Law) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGO9Mmd\_cUWhy would Jesus start with "do not think"? Why did the disciples there possibly think that he came to abolish the law?"Of special significance in this study is the word rendered “abolish.” It translates the Greek term kataluo, literally meaning “to loosen down.” The word is found seventeen times in the New Testament. It is used, for example, of the destruction of the Jewish temple by the Romans (Matthew 26:61; 27:40; Acts 6:14), and of the dissolving of the human body at death (2 Corinthians 5:1). The term can carry the extended meaning of “to overthrow,” i.e., “to render vain, deprive of success.” In classical Greek, it was used in connection with institutions, laws, etc., to convey the idea of “to invalidate.”What would it mean for Christianity if he said that he did come to abolish the law and the Prophets? Would we still be able to trust in Jesus's words? What does all of the old testament point to?To understand the statement Jesus makes " I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.", we need to understand what he means to fulfill the "Law". We can understand how the law is fulfilled when we understand the purpose of the law."The Mosaic Law was given specifically to the nation of Israel (Exodus 19; Leviticus 26:46; Romans 9:4). It was made up of three parts: the Ten Commandments, the ordinances, and the worship system, which included the priesthood, the tabernacle, the offerings, and the festivals (Exodus 20—40; Leviticus 1—7; 23). The purpose of the Mosaic Law was to accomplish the following:(1) Reveal the holy character of the eternal God to the nation of Israel (Leviticus 19:2; 20:7–8).(2) Set apart the nation of Israel as distinct from all the other nations (Exodus 19:5).(3) Reveal the sinfulness of man (cf. Galatians 3:19). Although the Law was good and holy (Romans 7:12), it did not provide salvation for the nation of Israel. “No one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin” (Romans 3:20; cf. Acts 13:38–39).(4) Provide forgiveness through the sacrifice/offerings (Leviticus 1—7) for the people who had faith in the Lord in the nation of Israel.(5) Provide a way of worship for the community of faith through the yearly feasts (Leviticus 23).(6) Provide God’s direction for the physical and spiritual health of the nation (Exodus 21—23; Deuteronomy 6:4–19; Psalm 119:97–104)." (got questions.com)Using this summary list, how does Jesus fulfill the law?Keeping the law18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.2 Peter 3:13 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.Isaiah 51:6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.When we lookThese verses and many more tell us that the heavens and earth will pass away, what does the Bible tell us will happen?Why and when will the Law pass away?Knowing that the earth will pass away, does this mean we can stop recycling?How does the idea of a new heaven and earth conflict with hollywoods version of heaven? What are some common statements made by non-christians about how heaven will be?When you think of the next life, what do you think about? Do you take in account a spectacular story Creator and a God that loves us, or is your image of "heaven" corrupted by the world?19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.What does it mean to relax a commandment?What are some commandments we relax?Who is Jesus talking to? Where will they end up? What does this tell us about the kingdom of heaven in regards to our behavior here on earth? Does it matter in the next life? 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.Romans 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. 32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written,“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense;and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”MacArthur say's "In the present passage Jesus teaches that the sort of righteousness exemplified by the Pharisees was not sufficient to gain entrance into His kingdom. To Jesus' legalistic, works-oriented hearers, this was doubtlessly the most radical thing He had yet taught. If the meticulously religious and moral Pharisees could not get into heaven, who could?"Where does our righteousness come from?Where did the righteousness of the Pharisees come from?SummaryWe know as Christians that we are saved by grace alone, through Christ alone. Does this mean we are free from living according to Gods commands?  |