

#### Matthew 5-7

# Filled With Challenges

- Be poor in spirit, merciful, hunger and thirst for righteousness, rejoice in the face of persecution, etc.
- Be the salt of the earth, light of the world.
- Love others, even those who treat us shamefully.
- Guard our hearts from lust; eliminate anything that causes us to sin.
- Be completely trustworthy in everything we say.
- Do good, not to please men, but to please God.
- Etc., etc.

#### But DO them we must!

•Matthew 5:19-20.

•Matthew 7:21–27.

# Thankfully, this sermon is also filled with INCENTIVES.

And so let's take a closer look.



- Jesus offers the hope of a reward in heaven.
  - Matthew 5:10-12.
  - Hebrews 11:24-26.



- Jesus warns us about the danger of being cast into hell.
  - Matthew 5:22, 29-30.
  - Mark 9:42-48.



- Jesus offers us, then, the choice between life and destruction.
  - Matthew 7:13-14.
  - The same approach used much earlier by Moses: Deuteronomy 30:19-20.
  - Mark 16:16.



- Nothing we do is ever done in secret.
  - Matthew 6:3–4, 6, 17–18.
  - Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 2:23.



- Our heavenly Father will forgive us IF...
  - Matthew 6:12, 14–15.
  - Ephesians 4:32.



- God will provide us what we need.
  - Matthew 6:11, 25-34.



- We have the opportunity to build something that will last, something to withstand the storms of life.
  - Matthew 7:24-27.