

"GOD'S WORD: BETTER THAN EVER"

Matthew 5:17-20

Main Idea: With the advent of the kingdom and the arrival of the King, the Old Testament, down to the smallest detail, not only remains authoritative and valid, but has a much deeper application.

The relationship of Jesus and the OT (17)

He did not come to abolish it

He came to fulfill it

By fulfilling prophetic predictions

By completing the sacrificial system

By clarifying its intended meaning and goal

By obeying it perfectly

The binding validity of the OT (18-19)

Every letter and detail has lasting relevance (18)

Every letter and detail is binding (19)

Those who are careless with God's commands will be dishonored

Those who are careful with God's commands will be honored

The righteousness demanded by the OT (20)

It must exceed that of the Scribes and Pharisees

It is a requirement for kingdom admission

Principles to affirm about the OT

The OT reveals a standard of God's perfect righteousness

The OT is a revelation of God's will for humanity

The OT was given, in part, to reveal humanity's perilous spiritual predicament, and then lead them to a Savior who is qualified to rescue them because of His perfect obedience

Jesus is the Interpreter of the law who determines what are binding commands and what are temporary rituals