Revolutionary Faith: An Exceptional Faith in a Mediocre World Matthew 5:17-20

When the last recorded revelation from God in the Old Testament is given (Nehemiah), it is followed by <u>400 "silent" years</u>.

Those 400 years gave way to a <u>rigid</u>, listless Judaism that would be dominated by the <u>elites</u> of the Hebrew society.

But the Scripture says that God intervened in human history in the <u>fullness</u> of <u>time</u>. Galatians 4:4

Jesus' demonstration of a faithful relationship with God the Father was <u>revolutionary</u> in its lifestyle and teachings.

It was so revolutionary that many wanted to "<u>cancel</u>" the entire Old Testament altogether. It is in response to this <u>defective</u> conclusion that Jesus aims a portion of the Sermon on the Mount.

The veracity of the word of God is . . .

- <u>Unmatched</u> Hebrews 4:12-13
- <u>Unfathomable</u> Psalm 19:7-10
- <u>Unfailing</u> Isaiah 40:8

Jesus uses 7 illustrations to teach that the Law and the Prophets cannot be canceled.

- <u>Anger</u>, abuse, and insults are at the heart of murder.
- <u>Lust</u> is a path to sexual disobedience.
- <u>Selfishness</u> is the groundwork for divorce.
- False statements lead to the destruction of <u>deception</u>.
- <u>Unforgiveness</u> and retaliation end in bitterness.
- Loving those who don't love you is the mark of faith.
- Anonymous generosity is evidence of real relationship with God.

The purpose of the word of God has always been to expose our sinful rebellion and contrast it with God's glorious perfection. This leads us to His merciful plan of salvation.