

## Matthew 5:17-20 **Eternal Law – Kingdom of Heaven**

17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

### The Law is forever and ever

‡ Eternal Law. [Matthew 5:17-18, Luke 16:17]

- ✧ Jesus came to fulfill both Law and Prophets in all points pertaining to the Messiah.
- ✧ Jesus said to the two on the way to Emmaus: "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And **beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.** [Luke 24:25-27]
- ✧ Then later to the Disciples after the two reported seeing Jesus on the road and in Emmaus, Jesus appeared and said: "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**" [Luke 24:44]
- ‡ Till Heaven and Earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the Law till all is fulfilled. [Matthew 5:18, Luke 16:17]
  - ✧ So what is revealed in the Law and Prophets that will be fulfilled before one jot or tittle of the law may pass from the Law, and when will it all be fulfilled?
  - ✧ The Law and the Prophets reveal everything God desires for mankind on the earth to discern between right conduct and wrong conduct.
    - ✧ What is right conduct in days of Old, is still right conduct for all eternity.
    - ✧ What is wrong conduct in days of Old, is still wrong conduct for all eternity.
    - ✧ Right and wrong, good and evil, righteousness and unrighteousness, godliness and ungodliness, will never change. The Law stands forever.
  - ✧ The Law and the prophets reveal the sequence of events God has planned for mankind.
    - ✧ The time of individualism before the Great Flood.
    - ✧ The time of example and revelation from the Great Flood to Christ.
    - ✧ The time of Grace revealed through the Church from Christ to the Great Tribulation.
    - ✧ The Wrath of God of the Great Tribulation.
    - ✧ The coming of Christ with the Armies of Heaven at the Battle of Armageddon.
    - ✧ The Judgment Seat of Christ where God separates the ones to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, from the wicked who are destined to Everlasting Fire.
    - ✧ The words of Jesus to those on the right, "Come, you blessed of the Father, Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the World."
    - ✧ The words of Jesus to those on the left, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into Everlasting Fire prepared for Satan and his angels."
    - ✧ The Kingdom of Heaven when Jesus will reign King of kings, and Lord of lords over all the earth for a thousand years.

- ✧ A World of perfect righteousness and perfect peace that reaches between man and man, nation and nation, animal and animal, animal and man, universal peace that covers the earth accompanied by abundance in everything.
- ✧ The final release of Satan and temptation of all who have never before been tempted.
- ✧ The final rebellion.
- ✧ The Great White judgment.
- ✧ The passing away of the old heaven and earth.
- ✧ The entry of the New Heaven, New Earth, New Jerusalem where righteousness dwells. [\[2 Peter 3:13, Isaiah 65:17-19, 66:20-22, Revelation 21:1-2\]](#)
- ✧ Eternity with God in total glory.
- ✧ All this is revealed in the Law and the Prophets
- ✧ Till Heaven and Earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the Law till all is fulfilled. [\[Matthew 5:18, Luke 16:17\]](#)
  - ✧ Righteousness never changes, the Law stands forever.
- ✧ Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven. [\[Matthew 5:19\]](#)
  - ✧ That does not say he will be in the Kingdom of Heaven, but he will be viewed in the Kingdom of Heaven as the least.
  - ✧ We must be careful to guard ourselves against breaking the requirements of the Law, and even more important we must guard ourselves against leading another astray. [\[Matthew 18:6-9\]](#)
- ✧ Whoever does all of the Commandments, and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. [\[Matthew 5:19\]](#)
- ✧ For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. [\[Matthew 5:20\]](#)
  - ✧ This is a very sobering concept. Who are the Scribes and Pharisees?
    - ✧ The Scribes are the ones who copied the Law from one scroll to another, being meticulously careful to copy the text exactly and precisely to the least jot and tittle.
    - ✧ By doing so, the Scribes were aware of the least mark in the written law. That made them authorities in the written Word of God.
    - ✧ The Pharisees took the written law from the Scribes, and made traditional rules and regulations of interpretation to regulate the parameters that decided how far one could go before they broke the commandment of the law.
    - ✧ Of the Pharisees and Scribes, Jesus said, “by your tradition you have made the commandment of God of no effect.” [\[Matthew 15:1-6, Mark 7:5-13\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus wants His people to follow the Spirit of the Law and not the rules and regulations established by men.
  - ✧ Therefore, we need to find the heart of God as expressed in the Law, and leave the letter of the law inserted by men, alone. That way our righteousness will certainly exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees.
  - ✧ In His life and teachings, Jesus revealed the heart and Spirit intended by God in the Law. Then He said, “Teach them to obey all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” [\[Matthew 28:20\]](#)