

FULL TRANSCRIPTIONS

SERMON ON THE MOUNT - GOSPEL SERIES # 3

by *Herbert W. Armstrong* – TIME: --(28:00 M/S).

00:08 M/S

HWA: And greeting friends, this is Herbert W. Armstrong with the Good News of The World Tomorrow. And now my friends, prepare yourselves to hear..., the [most wonderful sermon ever preached](#). At least that's [what people have always called it](#). The sermon on the Mount has been called the most wonderful sermon ever preached. But do you understand it and do you know what it says? Very few that have ever understood it. They think it's wonderful. You know, it's a good deal like the Prophet Ezekiel said, and I've had so many people say that very thing to me so many, many times. Oh, [what a wonderful sermon](#) and how beautiful it was. But they don't know a thing that was said. It doesn't mean anything to them. They didn't get it. They don't do anything about it. It didn't really take root in their lives. And the seed was apparently not planted and it certainly never sprouted. As the Prophet Ezekiel said, ([Ezek 33: 31-32](#)) let the people come and set before thee as my people, they pretend to be God's people and they hear the words that you preach to them and behold thou art until them as a musician that playeth on a very wonderful instrument. And sing a very wonderful song, they hear your words; it's beautiful music to their ears, they hear your words but they do them., not.

01:27 M/S

HWA: Now, if we don't get something out of this that will actually make a change in our lives and add something that we didn't have before, we're wasting our time. Let's see if there aren't things here that you never even saw and ever heard of before. You've heard about this sermon; just like you've heard about Jesus Christ but do you know His message? Why have you never heard *The True Gospel* of Jesus Christ? Why is it the people of this day and age don't know what Jesus preached? They don't seem to know the message. They don't know that Jesus Christ was preaching about [world government](#). And about the conditions in the world now today. And what is going to happen in the immediate future..., and in *The World Tomorrow*..., just ahead of us now. Yes, Jesus Christ was interested in world conditions. He was interested in what is going on in the world today. And He told about how, He Himself is going to straighten out these tangled affairs of men that have this world of so perplexed, so struck with fear, and bring us peace at last. It's coming..., but it isn't coming the way most people think.

02:40 M/S

HWA: Now we started but didn't get into this thing, a broadcast or two ago and so let's go back and notice the preferences; we were going through in the harmony of the Gospels of Matthew and Mark and Luke and John and remember that all four writers were writing about the same thing. The life of Jesus Christ; the things that He said and the things that He did.

03:05 M/S

HWA: And so in the time sequence, we were in Luke the sixth chapter and I want to read this again. Beginning with verse twelve, it came to pass in those days that Jesus went out into a mountain to pray. Now He didn't going into a public synagogue and pray before everybody to make a big showing and impress other people with what a rhetorical and public prayer that He could make. But He went out in the mountain away from all the people and the only one to hear Him was His Father in heaven. And we're going to see in this very sermon He told you and me how to pray and it wasn't to pray publicly before other, for others to hear but privately before God for the Eternal God our Father in heaven to hear. So He went out into this mountain to pray, and He continued all night in prayer to God.

04:00 M/S

HWA: And when it was day, He called His disciples and He chose from them twelve whom He also named Apostles. Now they were to be His ambassadors. They were His emissaries bearing His authority sent to the peoples of this world, representing Him and His government; His kingdom, the Kingdom of God. But His Kingdom in not of this world, that is of this age, this time; this present pattern of things that men have set up as the civilization of this earth now today. Now He selected His twelve disciples, the ones that were to be the Apostles out of all the disciples who were following Him. And He had called each of them and now He had to [pray all night](#) so that he could be close enough to God and have the [wisdom; the understanding](#) to know which ones God had selected, which ones He should choose and select. As I said before, they didn't come and say now we'd like a job, we think we would like to work for you, we want to get into the ministry and we think you look like.., we know the Pharisees and the leaders of the synagogues are calling you a false prophet but we think you're alright and perhaps they wouldn't hire us but maybe you would. Now, we'd like to get a job. How much will you pay us, if we go to work for you and preach.

05:19 M/S

HWA: That's about the way people might talk today. A minister came to me one time up in Oregon, and he said well I've just got married and said I've been

inactive for several years but he was an ex-preacher and he said do you know of a single pastor opening in this county, I wanted it in this county, my wife is pretty well to do, she has some money but I just have too much pride to let my wife support me and I've got to go to work again. Do you know where I can get a job? Well, I said, I just know of one Church that doesn't have a pastor in it but I don't think you would fit in there and that's a Christian Church and you're a Methodist. He said, Oh, now that doesn't make a bit difference, he said well I'll preach whatever they want me to, all they have to do is tell me what they want me to preach, I'll preach it, whatever they want, but I've got to get a job and earn a living. I want to support my wife. I'll tell you, my friends, they're too many in that category today.

06:10 M/S

HWA: My wife and I found years ago, that if we were going to serve God and preach what God wants to hear instead of what the people want to hear, we would have to turn to God in living faith to support us and if He's the one we work for, He's the one we have to look for, for the salary and the income and we always have. People said to me years ago, as I mentioned the other day, as one man said, you're not going far Mr. Armstrong, because you preach the word of God and you know the Bible corrects people and reproves people and people don't like to be corrected and reprovved they just want to hear something that's nice and pleasant and you don't preach things like that. And you upset people. Well, I said, at least I hope I make them think a little bit but., well he said you won't get far and it wasn't long after that, we had to cut off the little salary we were getting at the time because we found the men who controlled that salary and the treasury funds of the church and paid it to us, insisted that we had to do things contrary to the Bible and we had to preach the opposite of what it said. And when we didn't do it, we had to cut ourselves off and trust God in living faith, along!

07:22 M/S

HWA: You know, my friends, if you'll ever learn that lesson you'll get a lot further in life. If you will do what God says, and put yourselves in His hands, and then trust Him with the results. Rely on Him and trust Him, you'll find out that you'll get a lot further than the way people are going. People think that you wouldn't get far doing that. And most people, well just frankly, lack the nerve. They like that stiffening of the vertebrae to do that very thing. I know a lot of people that ought to be doing it today and they can't. They think that no God just isn't fair and things don't look like they're breaking right and they want to try and take things in their own hands according to their own human reasoning they just can't trust God with the result and it doesn't look like God is fair if they have to do the things He said according to His law so they reason out

according to human reasoning that they should break God's law and do the thing that looks right to a human being and.., then they wonder why they are always so unhappy and things never break right for them. If you can put yourself in God's hands, if you can do what God says and obey Him, and if you can trust Him with the result, you will get far. You'll go a long, long way and everything will break right.

08:34 M/S

HWA: Well, Jesus spent this whole night in prayer after which He selected His own disciples that were to be the Apostles, the twelve. He selected them, they did not select him. And He selected those whose hearts He knew, and He even [foreknew actually about Judas Iscariot](#) as it is mentioned later and the that was even for a purpose.

08:55 M/S

HWA: Now, seeing the multitudes, we come to Matthew five, now in verse one, and seeing the multitudes and this follows in direct sequence in the actual activities and this was the very morning after He had spent that whole night in prayer and after He had selected His Apostles. Now, seeing the multitudes He went up into the mountain.., well that was the night before, he spent that whole night up in prayer, this is Matthew's account now, and when He set down, this is the next morning, His disciples came unto Him. He spent that whole night in prayer, I don't think that the disciples had yet come to the place where they would spend the whole night in prayer with Him. But it must have been morning when they came. And He opened His mouth and taught them saying.., I want you to notice that [He taught His disciples](#). Now, Luke's account is, ([Luke 6:20](#)), He lifted up His eyes on His disciples and said, Blessed are ye poor, this [wasn't a sermon to the great crowd](#), He isn't talking, my friends, to the world, this is said to His disciples whom He chose to be Apostles. This is for those that are the disciples who then and there [represented all converted people today](#). And those who have surrendered to God, accepted Christ and have become God's own children begotten of Him through the power of the Holy Spirit. [That's who He was speaking to](#), He was speaking to those who were disciples and those who should be His disciples thereafter as this is recorded for our reading and our learning today. And so [He said to His disciples](#), Blessed are you, ye poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God.

10:37 M/S

HWA: Now, Let me explain once again that in Matthew, the expression is use The Kingdom of heaven but never in Mark's gospel or in Luke's or in John's. Mark, Luke and John never used the expression Kingdom of heaven and no

other writer of the Bible and no other place in the Bible can you find that little phrase 'Kingdom of heaven.'

Intermission for available spiritual material --11:00 - 12:09 M/S

12:09 M/S

HWA: Now, where Matthew reports, Jesus as having said Kingdom of heaven, Mark, Luke and John wherever they mentioned the same words mention it as Kingdom of God. Actually, it's all the same thing. It's not a Kingdom inside of God or inside of Heaven, it is the Kingdom that is owned by and ruled by God., or by heaven because heaven is His throne. And so, it is the heavenly Kingdom that is ruled by heaven, governed from heaven by the God of heaven. And, that's exactly what it means. I explained that in some detail yesterday so, I believe it was yesterday, so let's go along real rapidly now. Now, in Matthew's account, blessed are the poor in spirit, but He's speaking to them, ye poor in spirit, yours is the Kingdom of heaven or the Kingdom of God.

13:00 M/S

HWA: Blessed are they that mourn, these are the so-called beatitudes now, but I want you to get the meaning, for they shall be comforted (Matt. 5: 4). All of this is if we are putting our trust in God and relying on Him for the result He will work it out! God has never promised how quick he'll do what he promises. He's never explained to you how he'll do it or when. He'll do it His way and God does work in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform. But, nevertheless, when He promises a thing, He'll do it. He said they'll be comforted, He didn't say how quickly. He didn't say what manner, He just said they shall be. And it will happen if you trust Him. Blessed are the meek, they shall inherit the earth (Matt. 5: 5).

13:43 M/S

HWA: You know I told you about that school teacher who had come to me and claimed \$5.00 that I had offered for anyone who could give me any passage in the Bible of any hope or promise that anyone now living can ever go to heaven. And she quoted this a little later here, "Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness sake." It's in verse ten here, in Matthew five, verse ten. Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. And I asked her if she knew the difference between of and in and it doesn't say a kingdom in heaven but of heaven just like the bank of Morgan in New York City is the Bank inside of Mr. Morgan. It isn't anything he ate that's inside of him it's the bank he owns. It belongs to him. And the Kingdom of God is the Kingdom that God owns. It belongs to him. The Kingdom of heaven is own in heaven and it belongs to heaven but it isn't up in heaven. So, I turned immediately to verse five here and I said, "what

do you make of this, then?" And blessed of the meek for they shall inherit the earth. She was a little perplexed and she said well, I don't know. She said, I guess if you're going to be meek then you stay on the earth. And if you get persecuted, you get to go to heaven. I said, that's a kind of peculiar situation. Then I told her if she thought if she was qualified to be a school teacher. And, if she knew the difference between the meaning of the word 'of ' and the word 'in'. But now notice. Blessed are the meek, they shall inherit the earth.

15:11 M/S

HWA: I knew a man one time, who was rather weak and I told him, why, you don't need to be weak, you can be strong.., I mean strong in purpose and in character and all that sort of thing. He was physically strong enough I don't mean physically but he just acted weak and his folks kept telling him that he was weak and he couldn't do anything and don't try and I kept trying to tell him he could if he thought he could. Every read that book, Oh, I forget the name of the author, Orison Swett Marden or something like that. Is that the name of an old author of the books I use to read when I was a young man years ago. Anyway, the title of the book is *He Can, Who Thinks He Can*. I procured a copy of that in a secondhand bookstore not too many years ago. It's around the college here some place. I don't know who has it just now sort of been bandied around and I hope it's in the library. It should be. I'd like to read it again, myself. I read it years and years ago. But, there's a lot of truth in that. We can, if we think we can. Well, this man thought he was weak. And his name was Claude and he said that he had look at the meaning of the name Claude and he says it means weak. Well, I said now that's a surprise to me, I'm going to look up the meaning of the name too and when I looked it up I saw, that the meaning of the name Claude was M-E-E-K; meek, not W-E-A-K weak, at all. And so I tried to tell him but somehow he just got that little psychological impression of.., in his mind.., and the autosuggestion of it and everything kept him thinking he was weak and he we always acted that way. Well, he should have been strong. Meek is not weak. Jesus Christ was meek but I want to tell you as far as character is concerned, and the kind of strength that counts, the spiritual strength, the mental strength.., He was the strongest man who has ever lived on the face of this earth. But He was meek.

17:14 M/S

HWA: Every really great man is meek and humble. Anyone who struts around and brags about is just like a peacock or a turkey. Turkeys can surely strut. And I've often wonder if there is room for any thinking whatsoever in the tiny little turkey mind and there isn't much room there. And there's certainly not much brain in side of a turkey. But, they act as if they just have the impression they're so very important. And they don't know enough to cross the road or get

out of the way if an automobile is coming. They don't have any sense whatsoever. And I guess..., they're just for Thanksgiving dinner. That's about all. And, a lot of people are like that. And when people strut, and when they become very proud, they're not very big, really. A big man, is a meek, and a humble man. He doesn't have to put on airs. And let me tell you, my friends, the real confidence and faith he should have faith in God and trusting Him with the result and that'll keep you humble but oh..., how it will always work out. There's power in it and we can accomplish very great things that way, provided, of course, it's God in you that's accomplishing it. You'll have to be in His will to do it.

18:32 M/S

HWA: Now, Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness. But the trouble of that is, the people are hungering and thirsting after something that gives them a kick out of life and perhaps twitches their nerves a little bit and gives them a sensation in the physical nervous system of the body for the moment and something that is momentarily pleasing to pass away the time while they let their minds stagnate and their bodies lie idle. They don't want to do anything and so they have all these modern gadgets to save us labor and work. You, know today, you read the advertising and the implication is it's a disgrace to work. It's a disgrace to do any work. You must get more labor saving devices if you want to be in the big shot class. Not many people hunger and thirst after righteousness. Now, Jesus said if they do, they shall be filled.

19:26 M/S

HWA: But you know how most people are today, they're not filled; their lives are empty. They go around with empty lives, they're just bored to death, and they have to invent some kind of a pastime to take away the consciousness of their misery. They're so unhappy. Their life is so dull and so uninteresting that they have to invent some useless, nonsensical kind of a pleasure to..., well it looks like filling a starving stomach with a lot of husks instead of the real corn or the real food. And it isn't going to help and it isn't going to fill you and make life worth while. Now, God intended life to be full and abundant, interesting every second until it's just dynamic and interesting and good to be alive. And there's only one way it can be and that's to find God and God's way and God's law which was set in motion to make life happy and to make it abundant and worthwhile. Now, those that really hunger and thirst after righteousness; They're going to have it. They're going to be filled with it and when you're filled with it, your life is not empty. You're not empty; you're filled. And what are you filled with? Something very good. Very, very good! Righteousness!

20:39 M/S

HWA: That's right doing and.., what is righteousness? There's a Bible definition for righteousness, now to stop and think about it, back in the one-hundred and nineteenth Psalm, the one-hundred and seventy-second verse ([Psalms 119:172](#)), "All thy commandments are righteousness." The commandments of God; the way of God is righteousness. Now, you see what you have to do to be filled? [The commandments of God](#) and that's the way of God and that's is the way that runs counter to the way men want. That isn't the way men like. That doesn't go according to human reason. The human carnal mind is enmity against God ([Romans 8:7](#)). It really thinks God is all wrong. And it thinks there's a better way. It always wanting to argue for a way that looks better to the human mind. And then these poor deluded people wonder why everything is going wrong. Oh, I know people like that. And you can't do a thing with them. There so cock sure that they're right. They're suffering, their lives are empty. They're full of fears for the future. Their life is a burden. But they're so stubborn.., they won't.., they just simply will not repent of that very thing that is causing them all their troubles. They're their own worst enemy. They can't see it.

21:56 M/S

HWA: Yes, blessed now are the merciful ([Matt. 5:7](#)). A lot of people haven't very much mercy. Oh, we want God to have mercy though, don't we? It's a good thing He does and that He's not like human beings that would take vengeance just without any mercy whatever. Blessed are the merciful, they shall obtain mercy. If you want to get mercy, and we're all coming to the place we're going to all need a lot of it, I tell you that! Then we'd better be merciful that's the only way that you'll ever get it. Be merciful to others. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God ([Matt. 5:8](#)). Do you know where Jesus is getting all of this, do you know he is just quoting from the scriptures? And the Old Testament scripture at that because the New Testament hadn't been written. Now, blessed are the meek they shall not inherit the earth, turn back to Psalms thirty-seven, eleven and you'll find that ([Psalms 37:11](#)). They that hunger and thirst after righteousness, they shall be filled ([Matt. 5:6](#)) turn back to the fifty-fifth Psalm and you'll find it and then obtaining mercy the eighteenth Psalm, the twenty-fifth verse ([Psalms 18:25](#)) and proverbs eleven, seventeen ([Proverbs 11:17](#)), now He say blessed are pure in heart, they shall see God if you're really pure in heart ([Matt. 5:8](#)). Well he was just simply expounding the twenty-fourth Psalm, the third to the fifth verse ([Psalms 24: 3-5](#)) back there and you'll find it.

23:09 M/S

HWA: And then again, Jesus said, blessed are the peacemakers, those that make for peace and know the way to peace. For they shall be called 'sons of

God'. Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness sake, we went into that a minute ago, Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. And then again, you know, you read in The New Testament, that all who will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. All who will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution because, you know why? If you live Godly in Christ Jesus you going the way of God law, you're living God's way and it's way that's make you happy, your live full and abundant but the world doesn't like that way. The world is at enmity against that way and when you live that way; I don't know why people persecutes you unless it's because it sort of puts them under a conviction and a sense of condemnation and they feel self-condemned which is certainly a sort of a mental and a spiritual inferiority complex. And then they try to ride over it and so in order to ride over it, they have to condemn you and accuse you and put you down below them in the way they talk and their attitude and that way they can trample all over you and climb up on top of you and forget about the fact that they are really down under themselves, and they kid themselves in plain language. They deceive themselves into believing they are alright. It's merely comes from a sort of a spiritual inferiority complex.

24:41 M/S

HWA: Now, all who will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution, do you? If you don't, you're not a real Christian..., according to the Bible. Now when people say all manner of evil against you, falsely, of course if they're speaking the truth that's another matter. But when they say it falsely, for my sake, rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven. Now does that mean you go up to heaven to get it? When are you going to collect that reward. Your reward is in heaven but where are you? You're down here. And your reward is up in heaven. Do you go there to get it or does it come here to you. Over here in the eleventh chapter of Revelation, in verse eighteen, we read about the second coming of Christ. Verse 15, the seventh angel descended and it's announced that the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever; the time of the second coming of Christ when He is coming. He said if I go to heaven, I will come again and He's coming to reign and to rule over this earth. Now, verse eighteen, says, at that time, the nations were angry and thy wrath, God's wrath has come, and the time of the dead that they should be judged. That's the time then of the resurrection, that the dead should be judged, and they thou shouldest give reward to thy servants; the prophets and to the saints, and to them that fear thy name, small and great, and should destroy them that destroy the earth.

26:15 M/S

HWA: There again, in the twenty-second chapter of Revelation, Jesus is speaking and Jesus here says that He is coming and His reward is with Him. Behold, I come quickly, at His second coming and my reward is with me to give every man according as his works shall be. And that's where you get your reward., right here on the earth at the second coming of Christ and not now or not when you die. Listen, if you want to know more about these things you ought to read The Plain Truth.

26:43 M/S

HWA: Now finally, listen, we live today in the most tremendous time in all of earth's history. You're going to live on into and through the supernatural world catastrophes bringing about the end of this world. Ushering in the Kingdom of God, the happier world tomorrow. The very first business of your life, ahead of everything else now, ought to be the study of your Bible. To come to really understand the Bible, especially its prophecies, but you need help. At last you can take the Ambassador College Bible Course by correspondence right there in your own home. This Bible Correspondence Bible course is now ready for your enrollment. And so listen, if you want to really understand your Bible, if want to really set yourself to devote a half-hour or more, every day, to the real study of your Bible with this wonderful course, then we're ready to start sending you lessons by mail. Not just write and tell me that you want to enroll and be sure to mention the call letters of this station. And we've have decided to charge no tuition. We're going to send you this course by mail without charge; trusting God purely on faith to supply the need --(28:00 M/S).