

**Sunday, February 6, 2022**  
**“Meet Your King”**  
**Summary of The Kingdom of God Has Come**  
**Matthew 4:23-25; 5:1**  
**Wayne Shelton**

The Sermon is found in Matthew’s Gospel towards the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. Immediately after his baptism and temptation he had begun to announce the good news that the Kingdom of God, long promised in the Old Testament era, was now on the threshold. He himself had come to inaugurate it. With him the new age had dawned, and the rule of God had broken into history. *‘Repent,’ he cried, ‘for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand’* (Matt. 4:17). Indeed, *‘He went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom’* (4:23). The Sermon on the Mount, then, is to be seen in this context. It portrays the repentance and the righteousness which belong to the Kingdom. That is, it describes what human life and human community look like when they come under the gracious rule of God. And what do they look like? *Different!* Jesus emphasized that his true followers, the citizens of God’s Kingdom, were to be entirely different from others. They were not to take their cue from the people around them, but from him, and so prove to be genuine children of their heavenly Father. Some have identified the key text of the Sermon on the Mount as 6:8: *‘Do not be like them.’*

*Excerpt*

In this sermon introducing the Sermon on the Mount we note that it describes what human life and community look like when they come under the gracious rule of God.

