

A Harmony of the Gospels

The Citizen of God's Kingdom

The Kingdom citizen impacts the world.

Matthew 5:13-16

- Salt preserves and seasons
- The presence or absence of salt is always noticeable
- Few things are more worthless than salt that is not salty
- Light always penetrates darkness
- We have the opportunity to light the way to God.

The Word of God is the basis of thought, attitude and action for the Kingdom citizen. Matthew 5:17-20

- Law and Prophets is a reference to the Hebrew scriptures.
- There is a vast difference between setting something aside and bringing it to its intended end.
- Jesus supported all aspects of what we now know as the Old Testament law during His ministry here on earth since it would not be fulfilled until His death and resurrection.
- Jesus left no question about the authority of the Word of God.
- Jesus was clear that a righteousness greater than the law could produce is necessary for entrance into His kingdom.

The Kingdom citizen has the highest regard for human life. Matthew 5:21-26

Jesus deals with the conditions of the human heart that unchecked can and do lead to murder

Anger

Disrespect

Unresolved conflict

The Kingdom citizen has the highest regard for moral purity. Matthew 5:27-30

Adultery begins in the heart

Take sin seriously

The Kingdom citizen has the highest regard for marriage. Matthew 5:31-32

Focus on God's original plan rather than a way out. (See Matthew 19:3-9)

The Kingdom citizen has the highest regard
for the truth. Matthew 5:33-37

See Matthew 23:16-22

Compare Proverbs 6:12-13

The Kingdom citizen acts based on Kingdom principles. Matthew 5:38-42

Act based on mercy and grace rather than reacting according to the flesh

Don't let your best interest be your first and only consideration.

The question should always be, "How may God use me in this situation for His glory?"