- Yeshua's Sermon on the Mount can be compared only to Moses at Mt. Sinai
- This is why Matthew pictures Yeshua as a second Moses
- In Luke chapter 6 is the Sermon on the Plain, not the Sermon on the Mount
- The Sermon on the Mount is an in-depth teaching on the Torah as given to Moses
- Christ paused to make it clear He did not abolish or in any way tamper with the Torah
- He also did not create a new "Torah of Jesus"

WHY ONLY MATTHEW?



Yeshua chose His disciples by command

John Calvin brought together the doctrines of election and predetermination

Calvin's new doctrine meant that all who would believe were pre-selected in eternity past, and thus only those pre-chosen would ever be saved.... the rest wouldn't
Talmid, Talmidim = disciple, disciples
"Disciple" doesn't fully capture the meaning of *Talmid*



THE DISCIPLES COULD SAY "NO"

- Yeshua didn't compete for disciples, He commanded & chose them
- Paul a Diaspora Jew, educated, well to do family, a Pharisee
- Attended the Academy of Gamaliel in Jerusalem
 - These actions do not warrant a Church doctrine of exclusivity whereby disciples of Christ are predetermined

- Mercy is a reciprocal matter between God and man
- Proverbs 14:21
- B. Talmud Shabbat "Whoever has pity on people will obtain pity from Heaven."
- Compassion, mercy, pity are essentially the same in the Bible
- Two greatest commandments:
 Love God, Love your fellow man



You have ignored the weightier matters of the Law: justice, mercy, trust

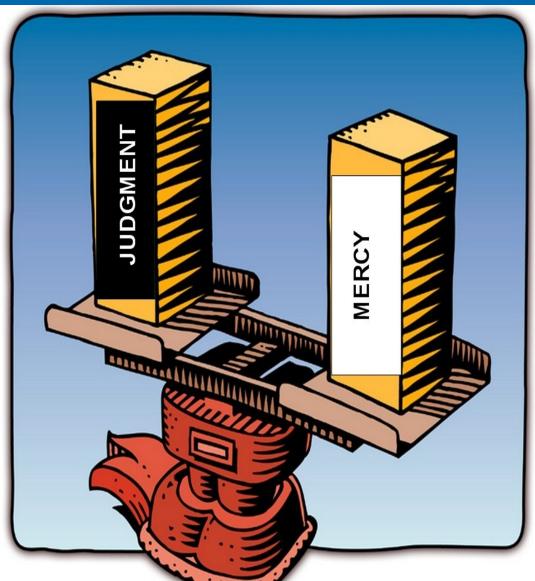
For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. Hosea 5:5

Hosea 6:6 and Matthew 23:23 mean the same Some laws carry more weight, and so carry greater consequences > **P'shat** = not showing mercy is a greater sin than not paying tithes (as an example)

Remez = results of our mercy (or lack of) will occur at the Final Judgment

- Our position in the Kingdom will depend on our faithfulness to God's laws & commands
- These commands & laws also have a hierarchy of more and less weight
- Of these, the laws concerning justice, mercy, and trust are among the weightiest
- God's justice requires atonement; the price is the death of an innocent creature
- Jesus Christ became that innocent creature for us

PROPORTIONAL JUSTICE





In Matthew 23:23 where we see "mercy", a better word would be *chesed* because it encompasses more traits

The "trust" portion of the weightier matters concerns our relationship with God

A better word than "trust" is <u>faithfulness</u> because it incorporates belief, trust and uncompromising loyalty



- Matt. 5:8 "How blessed are the pure in heart! For they will see God"
- > Psalm 24

 "Heart" today is a metaphor for where love resides
Biblically "heart" equates to the mind and the intellect
Better phrased: *"How blessed are the pure in mind! For they will see God"* "Pure" recalls the ritual purity rules of the Torah





"SEEING GOD" NOW AND FUTURE

- Seeing God in the here and now is to know God
- Seeing God in the eternal future is see Him face to face as did Adam and Eve
- The pure in mind accepts God's justice
 - God's justice is Salvation

 Salvation gives us membership in God's Kingdom

- > THE 7TH BEATITUDE
- Matthew 5:9
- "Peace" is meant in the conventional way; an absence of conflict
- Shalom" is a spiritual concept about wellbeing in all its facets
- Matthew 10:34
- Yeshua brings Heavenly shalom (peace)
- He says for now He is NOT bringing shalom, but rather He's bringing conflict (a sword)
 Pirkei Avot 1:12

blessed are the peacemakers





In the 1st century some Jews contented themselves with living under Rome, other Jews (Zealots) were ready to fight

Jews believed they were living in the End Times

- OT Prophets foretold of God punishing His unfaithful people through the oppression of a foreign nation
- Therefore Yeshua urged people not to make war because this occupying force was God's will

LED BY THE SPIRIT



SONS OF GOD

Rom.8:14 " All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons"

- SERVANTS of God (like priests) a high status
 - SONS of God (like Kings of Israel) a higher status
- P'shat = following Christ means being non-violent against Rome
- *Remez* = we are sons of God in the present, but "sons" will rise to a greater and ultimate sense in the eternal future
 Rev. 21:1 – 7
- Gen. 1:26