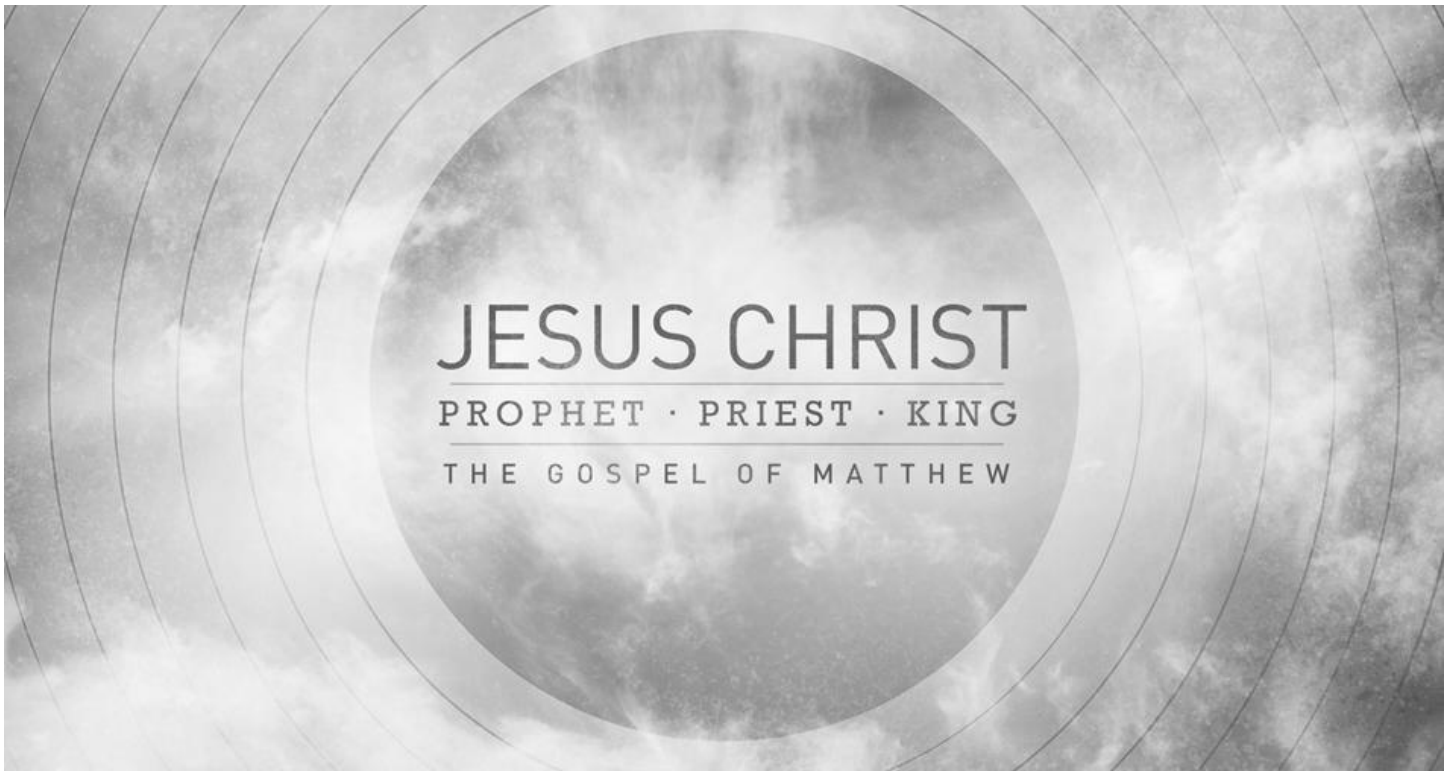




MATTHEW 7:12–14

Introduction

- The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) was a sermon Jesus preached to his disciples (Matthew 5:1).
- The Sermon on the Mount has three main aims:
 - It exposes our sin.
 - It drives us to repentance and faith in Jesus.
 - It shows us how to live lives that honor God.
- Negative (_____) versions of the Golden Rule are part of many religions.
 - Ancient Egypt, “That which you hate to be done to you, do not do to another.” (600 BC)
 - Thales (Greece), “Avoid doing what you would blame others for doing.” (600 BC)
 - Confucius, “What you do not wish for yourself, do not do to others.” (500 BC)
 - The Buddha, “Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.” (500 BC)
 - *Mahabharata*, “Do not do to others what you do not wish done to yourself.” (400 BC)
 - Zoroastrianism, “Whatever is disagreeable to yourself do not do unto others.” (300 BC)
 - Seneca (Rome), “Treat your inferior as you would wish your superior to treat you.” (50 BC)

The Big Idea

- Jesus calls his disciples to do unto others what they would have others do to them – and Jesus knows this is not _____.

What was Jesus not saying in these verses?

- Jesus was not issuing a ban on _____.
- Jesus was not issuing a ban on _____.
- Jesus was not calling us to forgo _____.
- Jesus was not calling us to _____.
- Jesus was not challenging us to earn our _____.

What was Jesus saying in these verses?

- Jesus taught that the greatest command was loving _____, and the second greatest command was loving _____ (Matthew 7:12 ... Matthew 22:37-40, Deuteronomy 6:4-5, Leviticus 19:18, Exodus 20:1-17).
- Jesus knew that loving God and others before self is not easy – it involves _____ to _____ (Matthew 7:13-14 ... Matthew 16:24).

Application

- We can love God and love others only because God _____ loved us (1 John 4:10).
- The miracle of _____ makes it possible for us to love God and love others (Jeremiah 31:33, Ezekiel 36:26-27).