

**Announcements**

Want to keep up on what's going on around here? Drop your info card in the offering plate and we'll add you to the e-newsletter list.

**Foundations Class canceled today!****Communities:**

This is where we gather to pray, study and encourage one another as part of the missional work of the Gospel. We would love to get to know you more, and this is one of the best ways to get planted as a part of Seaside.

Please consider joining a Community to strengthen the not only your family, but the larger community.

Contact  
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for info on where groups meet or to lead/host one.

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**V. 17-18** – The religious leaders and nation of Israel were looking for a particular type of Savior/Messiah to come and save them from external persecution and to replace the current Law with a new Law. Jesus comes as a servant, born in Bethlehem, raised in Nazareth, and fellowshipping with the sinners and outcasts. This naturally causes some issues. The Beatitudes preceding this teaching, and everything following this point in the sermon key on this idea – that,

**Jesus' purpose was not to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it.** But what does that really mean?

**V. 19** – Jesus starts with correction of bad teaching in v.17-18, and then moves on to affirm the validity of the Law, and the danger of taking any part of it for granted. **This is because this Law is God's Law.** But the nation of Israel, and especially the religious leaders, had added so much to this Law that it had become their god – their idol. This is the great danger of teaching and writing about the Word and Law of God. Instead of the Law being impossible to fulfill (which it was outside faith – just like now), they had taken the rules and built additional terms and conditions, seeking to, through the obedience to the rabbinic law, to provide a means for righteousness. This naturally pushed them towards what they *did* for righteous, rather than forcing them to look to the One who would make them, through faith in His Son, whole. **The external actions of their "faith" wrongly defined and validated their internal (heart's) condition before God.**

**V.20** - Because these leaders had taken the Law and made it their god, seeking that by *doing* it they would be considered righteous, Jesus draws a line in the sand. Unless they would seek Him and His righteousness, they would never enter the kingdom of heaven (see Galatians 2.15-21, 3.23-29; Romans 3.21-31, 5.20-21, 8.1-4).

**What are the implications in our lives of this?**

**What are the implications in community of this?**