



# can you spare 9 minutes to read a message 19 centuries old?

The Sermon on the Mount is for everyone.  
Anyone who reads it will be happier during the next 24 hours.  
Anyone who carries it in his heart will be happier forever.  
Read . . . re-read . . . and understand its words.  
No speech ever promised . . . or delivered . . . so much.

**W**HEN he saw the crowds of people he went up on the mountain. There he seated himself, and when his disciples had come up to him, he opened his lips to teach them. And he said:



★ Blessed are those who feel their spiritual need, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them! Blessed are the mourners, for they will be consoled! Blessed are the humble-

minded, for they will possess the land! Blessed are those who are hungry and thirsty for uprightness, for they will be satisfied! *Blessed are the merciful, for*



*they will be shown mercy!* Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God! Blessed are the peace-makers, for they will be called God's sons! Blessed are those who have endured persecution for their uprightness, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them! Blessed are you when people abuse you, and persecute you, and falsely say everything bad of you, on my account. Be glad and exult over it, for you will be richly rewarded in heaven, for that is the way they persecuted the prophets who went before you!

★ You are the salt of the earth! But if salt loses its strength, how can it be made salt again? It is good for nothing but to be thrown away and trodden underfoot. You are the light of the world! A city that is built upon a hill cannot be hidden. People do not light a lamp and put it under a peck-measure; they put it on its stand and it gives light to everyone in

the house. Your light must burn in that way among men so that they will see the good you do, and praise your Father in heaven.

★ Do not suppose that I have come to do away with the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to do away with them but to fulfill them. For I tell you, as long as heaven and earth endure, not one dotting of an *i* or crossing of a *t* will be dropped from the Law until it is all observed. Anyone, therefore, who weakens one of the slightest of these commands, and teaches others to do so, will be ranked lowest in the Kingdom of Heaven; *but anyone who observes them and teaches others to do so* will be ranked high in the Kingdom of Heaven. For I tell you that unless your uprightness is far superior to that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never even enter the Kingdom of Heaven!



★ You have heard that the men of old were told "You shall not murder," and "Whoever murders will have to answer to the court." But I tell you that anyone who gets angry with his brother will have to answer to the court, and anyone who speaks contemptuously to his brother will have to answer to the great council, and anyone who says to his brother "You cursed fool!" will have to answer for it in the fiery pit! So when you are presenting your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother has any

grievance against you, leave your gift right there before the altar and go and make up with your brother; then come back and present your gift. *Be quick and come to terms with your opponent while you are on the way to court with him, or he may*



hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you, you will never get out again until you have paid the last penny!

★ You have heard that men were told "You shall not commit adultery." But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman with desire has already committed adultery with her in his heart. But if your right eye makes you fall, tear it out and throw it away, for you might better lose one part of your body than have it all thrown into the pit! If your right hand makes you fall, cut it off and throw it away! For you might better lose one part of your body than have it all go down to the pit!

★ They were told, "Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce." But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife on any ground, except unfaithfulness, makes her commit adultery, and anyone who marries her after she is divorced commits adultery.

★ Again, you have heard that the men of old were told, "You shall not swear falsely, but you must fulfill your oaths to the Lord." But I tell you not to swear at all, either by heaven, for it is God's throne, or by the earth, for it is his foot-stool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great king. You must not swear by your own head, for you cannot make one single

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## POET'S CORNER

### SPRING

After the North Wind has come and gone;  
After the last snow falls;  
Then, as the March Wind sweeps o'er the lawn,  
Spring, in her new garb, rides in on the dawn,  
Into the earth's drab halls.  
Bringing new life and hope, she comes,

Gay as the nymphs of old;  
She is seen in the blossoms of peaches and plums,  
With a healing spirit she steals into slums  
That treasure her as gold.

She is seen in the grass and the bluebird's song  
That floats through the clear, mild air,  
The memory of her will be kept as long  
As the hearts of men are held by the thong

Of hope — pure and fair.  
Oh, Spring, though war may ravage and kill  
We know that you'll be here,  
Your green plants sprout o'er a shell-scarred hill  
The homeless children drink their fill  
Of your life, free from fear.  
Their mothers and fathers, with brightened eyes,  
Though their homes are wrecked by bombs;  
Lift their faces to greet the skies,

Skies that are free from planes—  
and lies  
Of tyrants — thus Spring comes.  
Yes Spring, we are building our dream on you -  
You come when hearts are downed,  
And within we feel surging our life anew  
A life of all hopes and dreams come true  
Which, through you, are found.

—Nancy Ormond  
Former pupil of Black Mountain High school.

**AT FAMILY REUNION**  
The Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Byrd and children, Judy and Bobby, visited Mrs. Byrd's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hallman in Sanford, N. C., during Easter. While they were there they attended the family reunion of Mrs. Byrd's family.

**HOME FROM VIRGINIA**  
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Atkins have returned from a visit with Mrs. Atkins' sister, Mrs. Nettie Penland in Norfolk, Va.