

FULL TRANSCRIPTIONS

SERMON ON THE MOUNT - GOSPEL SERIES # 2

GOSPEL by *Herbert W. Armstrong* – TIME: --(28:18 M/S).

00:08 M/S

HWA: And greetings friends, this is Herbert W. Armstrong with the good news of *The World Tomorrow*. Do you know, that what has been recognized as the greatest sermon ever preached, was actually not a sermon at all, but merely a matter of Jesus Christ talking to His disciples. And what He told them in that so-called 'sermon on the mount', the greatest sermon ever preached, had to do with world conditions and with *The World Tomorrow*. Let's look at it. Let's get this in its perspective.

00:41 M/S

HWA: Why is it we have not heard *The True Gospel* of Jesus Christ. Why is it that we have heard a different and another gospel. And that we have not heard too much about the real Jesus as He is pictured in the Bible but another Jesus. At least a Jesus of a somewhat different character all together. Let's get it straight. It's about time, don't you think, that we blew the dust off of our Bible to see what the Bible does say because most of us, my friends, have been believing exactly the opposite of what it says. Most of us have thought the Bible says the opposite of what it does say.

01:22 M/S

HWA: Now in the story flow of the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John telling of the events in the life of Jesus of what He preached, of what He taught, and of the example that He set for us, the things that He did, we came in last broadcast in this series, in the sixth chapter of Luke where in those days Jesus went out into a mountain to pray and He continued all night in prayer to God. There was a reason for that. And when it was day, He called His disciples of whom there were by that time a good number and He chose from them twelve. He selected twelve and chose twelve out of them whom also He named apostles. Now, we've seen in the past programs in this series of where Jesus was walking along and He saw a certain man and He called that man to follow Him and become His disciple. He found Peter and His brother fishing, as fisherman; He said, come and follow me. They didn't come to Jesus and say can we follow you. That we would like to follow you. We have decided we'd rather be preachers than any thing else, we believe that the easiest way to earn a living, and we'd like to choose that as our profession, will you let us become your minister; may we follow you? They didn't say that. Instead, they thought

they wanted to be fisherman. Matthew thought He wanted to be a tax collector. But Jesus said, you follow me. He chose them, they did not choose Him.

03:05 M/S

HWA: So, He had prayed all night. And after prayer all night long, Jesus had wisdom and knowledge. He had been so close to His Father that He could act with unerring judgment and have the wisdom to know just whom He should select from among the disciples and which should be the twelve that later were to become His Apostles. The Apostles carrying the authority of the Kingdom of God, and going out as Christ' own ambassadors representing Him and His government. Because it is a matter of government, now let's look into and see. These were later Apostles. There was Simon, who was also named Peter and Andrew his brother and James, John, Philip and Bartholomew they're all named here. And then, we return back to the fifth chapter of Matthew, which is the very next event in the actual story flow if we put all of these Gospels together and seeing the multitudes Jesus went up into the mountain and when He had sat down, His disciples came unto Him. He went away from the multitudes, He went up into a mountain and sat down to get away from the crowds as we've been seeing as we've gone through up unto this point in the New Testament and that He so often did. And when He sat down, His disciples came unto Him and He opened His mouth and taught them saying, I want you to notice, He had gone up into the mountain away from the crowd; His disciples followed after Him and arrived there shortly after He did apparently, and He opened His mouth and taught them. Who are them? The them refers to His disciples; the twelve that He had chosen and not to the crowd! And He taught them His disciples saying blessed are the poor in spirit..., now wait a minute, I wanted to check that with the King James because I reading that in the Revised Version. Oh, yes, I know what it is, it is in Luke's account.

05:13 M/S

HWA: Matthew records it, (Matt. 5:3), Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. But Luke records it in the sixth chapter of Luke and the., verse twenty, (Luke 6: 20), He lifted up His eyes on His disciples..., notice on His disciples, not on any great crowd or any multitude, this was not a sermon started out to a great multitude of people but He lifted up His eyes on His disciples and said, Blessed are ye poor..., ye poor, he was speaking specifically to them. For yours is the Kingdom of God. Now, Matthew said, Kingdom of Heaven, Luke says the Kingdom of God. They are both reporting the same identical words of the same identical man of the same identical time. And Matthew recorded it as the Kingdom of heaven and Mark..., or rather Luke recorded it as the Kingdom of God.

06:09 M/S

HWA: I received a letter from a school teacher up in Oregon. That is a former school teacher, I., I'm not sure she still is a school teacher. She want to know if I still remembered some few years ago, when I was holding a campaign, an evangelistic campaign, up in Oregon., North of Salem in Oregon and how I had offered five dollars to anybody that could show me any promise that anyone now living can ever go to heaven under any conditions whatsoever. She came to me at the close of the service and she said, Mr. Armstrong, I'm just mercenary enough to demand that five dollars. Well, I said, you produce the promise in the scripture, and I'll give you the five dollars. Well, she turned, she said I want you to notice in Matthew the fifth chapter in the eleventh verse., and the twelfth verse, "Blessed are ye when men shall reproach you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake, rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven!" Actually, I don't think that is the exact one, I want to comment on that a little later, but that is not the one either that she selected but this one here I think, it's mentioned twice in this passage here. Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness sake, this is it, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Now there, she said, theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. She said, five dollars, please. Well, I said, are you the., are you a teacher here; one of the teachers here in this school? She said, yes. I said, did you feel you are qualified to teach? Yes, she said, she certainly did. And I said and you don't know the difference between the word of and the word in? I said do you know what the word 'of' denotes? In New York City, there's the bank of Morgan. Is that bank inside of Mr. Morgan? Does the Kingdom of heaven mean Kingdom in heaven? Does that mean go in to heaven? She looked a little peculiar. I said, did you know that in Luke's account, he called it the Kingdom of God everywhere and He reports the same words that Jesus said. Now, the kingdom of God is not a kingdom that's inside of God, it's the kingdom that God rules and governs. In other words, the Kingdom that belongs to God. The word 'of denote ownership'. You can have the house of Morgan or Morgan's house. You can have a house of John that belongs to John or be called John's house. It's all the same thing; the word of denotes ownership.

09:02 M/S

HWA: Now, there is no place in the New Testament where you find the expression Kingdom of Heaven except in the writings of Matthew. And in most of these cases; Mark or Luke or John, will record the same words and always they recorded that Jesus said Kingdom of God. Actually, I think Jesus perhaps said either both or both have the same meaning for the simple reason it means that since God is in heaven and heaven is God's throne that the 'of' denoting ownership, it is the Kingdom that is owned in heaven or by heaven. It

belongs to heaven which the throne of God and it belongs to God, it's the Kingdom of God. But no place does it speak about our going up into heaven into that kingdom. The nearest that we could possibly get would be a few places in the book of Revelation where it is speaking in parables and a vision which John saw and apparently he was taken to heaven where he saw things but what he saw in vision and that was only a vision, and what he saw there was merely something in a vision to represent real events that are to take place on the earth..., not in heaven. He appeared to see the events in heaven but the events when they take place are to take place on the earth. Now, Jesus had said, ([John 3:13](#)) no man has ascended up to heaven but He that come down from heaven, even the son of man. Now did Jesus tell a lie or had anyone ascended to heaven?

10:36 M/S

HWA: Now, we know that David is going to be in the Kingdom of God, let me just give you two or three scriptures here very, very quickly. Uh, we will turn to the thirty-seven chapter of Ezekiel and here we have, let me see, down here in the twenty-fourth verse: ([37:24](#)) David my servant shall be king over them it's been speaking about the resurrection, and Israel and Judah both are being, gathered together at the time after the second coming of Christ, and in the Kingdom of God, at the time that the Kingdom of God rules the earth, at the beginning of the thousand year reign with Christ and it says here in verse twenty-four, and David, my servant, shall be king over them. They shall have one Shepherd and they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statues and do them. Well, then again the next verse and my servant David shall be their prince forever. Well, David is dead and still there is another place if I can find the exact one and in a hurry here that I had in mind and apparently I haven't mark it in my Bible and don't exactly but it's the passage that David whom I will raise up unto them showing that David is to be resurrected at that time ([Jer. 30: 9](#)). And that God will resurrect David out of the tomb or the ground of the earth.

11:56 M/S

HWA: Now then, we turn on over here to the book of Acts, and in the very second chapter of Acts, the first inspired sermon preached by the Apostle Peter, by direct inspiration; the first really inspired sermon preached by any of the apostles after the ascension of Jesus Christ and about David he said, for David speaking concerning Christ, I foresaw the Lord always before my face., this is verse twenty-five, in the second chapter of Acts, ([Acts 2: 25, 29 & 34](#)), for He is on my right hand that I should not be moved. Well, let's see, let's drop down, a little ways, the twenty-ninth verse, men and brethren, let me speak freely unto you of the Patriarch David that he is both dead and buried. Now he didn't say

was, but is, that is was **present tense** at the time that Peter was speaking and at that time Peter was speaking many centuries after David had died. He said that David is, that he still is dead and buried. And a man isn't buried until he is covered up. He's in the ground and covered up with dirt. He is buried and his sepulcher is with us unto this day. Now, in verse thirty-four, Peter here said under inspiration, "For David is not ascended into the heavens," but he says himself, "The eternal said unto my Lord, sit there on my right hand until I make thy foes thy footstool."

13:33 M/S

HWA: Now David was not ascended into the heavens. David is to be in the kingdom in a resurrection. Where is David going to come from? From up in heaven at the time of the resurrection? How is he going to get into Palestine to be with Christ there and to rule under Christ. Now, Christ Jesus will come again as the King of kings and the Lord of lords, ruling over all nations. But, one of those nations over whom Christ will rule, is the Kingdom of Israel. Now, there will be a king over each nation and those kings will be under Christ who is the King over all of the kings. Now, who is the one King over the one nation Israel at that time? Why, David is to rule over Israel; it's made very plain and a number of prophecies in the Bible. Now where is David coming from? If, 1900 years ago, which was already then several hundred years after he died, He was dead and buried and was still buried and David had not ascended into the heavens and if Jesus said at that time that no man has ascended up to heaven but He that come down from heaven; even the son of man. How is David going to get into the kingdom if he is not in heaven? Where is he going to come from?

14:51 M/S

HWA: Well, we turn know the I Thessalonians, the fourth chapter, and here Paul is telling them that he would not have the Thessalonians be ignorant, brethren, concerning them that are asleep and he meant dead, of course, I think some people today would rather sneer at Paul and call him a soul-sleeper because he used the word sleep, well, I'm just reading this out of the Bible. So, don't accuse me of being a soul-sleeper..., I'm, I'm reading this out of the Bible. Them that are asleep..., he meant those that are dead. And David was dead and buried in his sepulcher with them until that time that very day..., as Peter had said and he had not ascended into heaven as Peter also said and Jesus said no man had ascended to heaven. Now, notice!

15:37 M/S

HWA: He was one of those that were asleep. That you sorrow not even as others that have no hope, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again; now

when Jesus died, He went into the ground too just as David did. Let's turn back to that as Peter explained it in the second chapter of Acts, going back I'd read verse twenty-five, let's come to verse twenty-six, therefore did my heart rejoice and my tongue was glad and moreover also, my flesh.., my flesh, David read, shall rest in hope because thou will not leave my soul in hell. 'Will not leave my soul in hell.' Now where was his soul? Where is this hell? Let's let the Bible interprets where this hell is. It comes from the Greek word Hades which means.., a hole in the ground that is covered up. It means a grave and don't let anyone tell you that it means some mystic place of living souls, that is a comparative modern definition.

16:39 M/S

HWA: In our library in Ambassador College are.., Bible and Theological Library, we have very ancient books that are four, five hundred years old and one is a Bible dictionary that goes way back there that explains what soul is and what hell is and some of those things and I tell you this modern definition of that word Sheol in the Hebrew and Hades in the Greek meaning a mystic abode of living spirits is a comparatively new and modern idea. It is not a correct translation. At the time the King James Bible was translated, back in 1611 and some of these books we have are older than that and were printed before that time and at that time, the people in England customarily talked about putting their potatoes in hell for the winter. Now hell was merely a hole they'd dig in the ground and they'd cover them up and that's a pretty good way to keep potatoes. Well, hell has come to have a new meaning by a lot of people that are trying to believe and to induce others to believe that hell is not what it always did mean, and what it means in the Bible but something else. Now, just listen and see how the Bible defines it. David said, that you will not leave my soul in hell, neither will thou suffer thine Holy One, that's Christ, to see corruption. David knew that.., hundred of years before Christ that Christ, the Holy One, the Messiah, would not see corruption. Now corruption means that when you die, the body rotting and decaying. The body of Jesus never saw corruption. It did not rot or decay, He was resurrected before that decay could set in. And so David knew that and he said that thou will not let thou Holy One see corruption. He didn't say that his body would not see corruption. But he said thou will not leave my soul in hell. That is in the grave, in Hades.

18:36 M/S

HWA: Now, there is another hell fire let me just say right now and I know we have a lot of new listeners that are going to say but didn't Jesus talk about hell fire.., yes He did but where He did my friends, remember the New Testament was written in Greek language and not in the English and where He used the words hell fire, He was quoting from another Greek word altogether which is

Gehenna and it is Hades. There are three Greek words that are all translated hell in our American English translations and in most of them anyway and the King James especially, and each one of those Greek words has a different meaning. Now, Hades, means the grave. That is the word here used. Gehenna, was a place of burning yes, but it was the Valley of Hinnom, called Gehenna at the southern boundary of the city of Jerusalem where there were fires down below and the, the garbage and the bodies of dead animals and even of criminals were dumped over the ledge to fall down into the fires below where the attendants kept them burning all the time and they burned up and consumed everything that was put in.

19:43 M/S

HWA: But you know, those bodies when they were throw down didn't keep burning and burning and burning forever. And they were dead already and not alive and they just burned up. And.., that was the Gehenna that Jesus used to talk about hell fire and it was a place of destruction; it was a place of absolute burning them up till nothing was left but ashes on the ground and the smoke that had gone up and mixed up in the air and had ascended clear up. I wish the smoke here in Los Angeles would go up forever and ever and get clear away from the atmosphere so we wouldn't have this smog. It seems that the mountains around Los Angeles are arranged in such a manner and the air condition is such that the smoke here doesn't rise up and it's mixes in the air and we're getting a smog condition that those of us in Los Angeles don't like very well and we hope they get the smog condition cleared but normally smoke just rises up and up and up and it finally is dissolved in the air.

20:44 M/S

HWA: Well, now, He said here, that Jesus the Holy One, His body or His soul, would not see corruption, ([Acts 2: 28-29](#)) --thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shall make me full of joy with thou countenance, then He said, now brethren, Let me freely speak unto you of the Patriarch David, this is Peter speaking, that he is both dead and buried and his sepulcher is with us this day. ([Acts 2: 30, 31](#)) --Therefore, being a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on His throne, that is to sit on David's throne, I want you to notice Jesus was to be resurrected, to become a king and to sit on the throne, and to rule over it. He seeing this before, David seeing it before, spake of the resurrection of Christ that His soul was not left in hell. **[Then Jesus' soul went to hell.](#)** Now, where did Jesus go? When he was dead, Joseph of Arimathaea, that's not the ancient Joseph, but Joseph of Arimathaea, a rich young man, took the body of Jesus and because there was not time until sunset when the Sabbath day, the annual High day Sabbath, preceding the Passover,

would come on and it was unlawful to do the work of burying after the Sabbath, Joseph hurried to bury the body of Jesus in his own new tomb hewed into the rock, right into the very heart of the earth so that He could be buried before sunset. And his tomb happened to be very nearby and there wasn't time to go any further. Now, Jesus was actually buried and covered up when there was a great stone rolled up to cover up that tomb. Now, David seeing this before, spake of the resurrection of Christ that His soul was not left in hell, that is Hades or the grave, neither His flesh did see corruption.

22:42 M/S

HWA: This Jesus hath God raised and he was raised from that grave. And when Mary Madeleine and the other Mary came to the sepulcher, on that Sunday morning, He was not there He had risen before Sunday morning at sunrise! He didn't rise on Sunday morning either, that the other thing. Why don't you write in for our booklet on the truth about the resurrection. It was not on Sunday. The crucifixion was not on Friday, Good Friday, bad Friday or any other kind of Friday;.. it just was not on any Friday! Write in for our booklet on *The Resurrection*. And the mailing address is Herbert W. Armstrong, Post Office Box 111, Pasadena, CA, and I'll announce that again in about five minutes and so have a pen and envelop or paper ready to jot it down. Write in for that booklet on the resurrection.., I probably won't think to remind you of it again then but I'll give a mailing address then and you better write in for that.., before you forget it. It will certainly open your eyes..., if you want to know when the resurrection was.

23:46 M/S

HWA: Well, now turning back here to I Thessalonians, the fourth chapter, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and Jesus was in hell too, wasn't He? But His body was not left in hell and it did not see corruption.., He was resurrected after three days and three nights, and His body did not see corruption. And He died and He rose again, now to rise is to go up, not to go down. Descending is coming down and rising is going up and Jesus was on the way up; he came up out of the ground. Jesus died and rose again.., even so, now even so means in the same manner by dying and by rising or coming up from the ground. Then also we sleep in Jesus that is others that are asleep and David was a sleep, and David was dead and buried in his sepulcher was with him unto that day even then would sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. How? Even so, by bringing them up out of the ground. It doesn't say he will bring them down from heaven. Now, let's go a little further and you'll see exactly how it is.

24:55 M/S

HWA: For this we say unto you, by the word of the Lord. That we which are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, this is the second coming of Christ, this was written after Christ had already been on this earth and had ascended to heaven. And He hasn't been back yet so he is still to come. We that are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, shall not prevent or rather precede them which are asleep or he meant those that are dead. If you're not a so-called soul sleeper I just want you to know that he meant those who are dead. For the Lord Himself shall descend, now He ascended and went up to heaven, he rose up and came up out of the grave now He is going to come down from heaven and Jesus said if I go I will come again. He rose up from standing on the Mount of Olives, and the disciples were there with Him and He rose up in the air into a cloud which enveloped Him and covered Him and the clouds started to descending way up in the heavens and the disciples started just looking up into heaven as they saw the cloud go and an angel said you men of Galilee why stand you here gazing up into heaven, this same Jesus which you have seen taken up into heaven shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go. Now, going He went up.., coming He will come down but in the same manner just like one of these movies in reverse.

26:22 M/S

HWA: He'll come in the clouds and every eye shall see Him and He'll come right down out of the clouds and He will stand on the Mount of Olives that very same day. Let's go now and find that, now, for the Lord Himself shall descend that's coming down from heaven as He went up with the shout of the voice of the archangel, the Trump of God. That's how secretly He's coming when nobodies going to hear or see anything about it, it says here He's coming with a shout with the voice of the archangel with the Trump of God and the dead in Christ shall what!! Not come down from heaven with Him, they're not in heaven, no man has ascended up to heaven, but the dead in Christ shall rise..., they shall rise first. Jesus is descending coming down, the dead are rising going up.., then we which are alive shall remain shall be caught up.., we'll go up to from the earth together with Him in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

27:15 M/S

HWA: He's coming and that word 'meet' the original Greek word means meeting someone that is coming and turning around and going right down with them. And to meet them in the Lord in the air so shall we ever be with the Lord. Now, where do we go from there? That doesn't tell us there. It just leaves us right there. But you turn over to the fourteenth chapter of Zachariah and you read here behold the Day of the Lord cometh and Jerusalem spoil is to be divided in the midst of thee for I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle and so on.., and in verse four, it says.., His feet shall stand in that day

on the Mount of Olives, the same day that He comes; His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives. That's the way He went from the Mount of Olives and the dead will rise out of their graves., that's where they are; not up in heaven. Well, we didn't get far in that so-call Sermon on the Mount but Jesus teaching of His disciples.

We'll pick that up again tomorrow but in just a few seconds in closing, we'll want to get *The United States in Prophecy*. Now tell me first the call letters of the station to which you're listening, there's no charge --(28:18 M/S).