

CONFIRMATION

“The Matrix Mindset”

9/24/06

Text: Matthew 5:1-2

Mark 9:33-35 - ³³*They came to Capernaum. When He was in the house, He asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?”* ³⁴*But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.*

³⁵*Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.”*

³⁶*He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in His arms, He said to them,* ³⁷*“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”*

Matthew 20:24-28 - ²⁴*When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers.* ²⁵*Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.* ²⁶*Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,* ²⁷*and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—* ²⁸*just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”*

Luke 22:24-27 - ²⁴*...a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest.* ²⁵*Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors.* ²⁶*But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.* ²⁷*For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as One who serves.”*

Matthew 11:11-12 - ¹¹*The greatest among you will be your servant.* ¹²*For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”*

The dominant world-view today is the antithesis of the Christ-centered view. **E.g. –**

The world’s view is shaped by _____

The world’s view is _____

The world’s view is _____

Harry Blamires, author of *The Christian Mind*, has warned us: *“As a thinking being, the modern Christian has succumbed to secularization. He accepts religion...but rejects the religious view of life, the thing which sets all earthly issues within the context of the eternal.”*

E.g. –

What God is saying through “THE BEATITUDES” is this: You will never find happiness (_____) in this world.

C.S. Lewis once said in *The Weight of Glory*, *“Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”*

- To the Pharisees Jesus was saying, ‘Religion is not _____.’
- To the Sadducees He was saying, ‘Religion isn’t combining human philosophy and adjusting to the whims of _____.’
- To the Essenes Jesus was saying, ‘Religion isn’t being a _____.’
- To the Zealots Jesus was saying, ‘Religion also isn’t _____.’

