

**Cultivating  
a Christian Character**

***Studies in  
The Sermon on the Mount  
Matthew chapters 5-7***

***Fulfilling God's Law  
Matthew 5.17-20***

# ***Love the Old Testament – like Jesus did!***

## **1. Fulfilment, not abolition v17-18**

- ***Jesus hadn't come to make the OT fall apart  
nor had he come simply to endorse it  
He had come to bring it to its fulfilment***
- ***Its Purpose v17  
to prepare God's people for his Messiah Son  
1 Pet 1.10-12; Luke 24.27,32  
so, some applications were short-lived  
Gal 3.21-24  
animal sacrifices Heb 10.1-4  
priesthood Heb 7. 23-27  
food laws Mark 7.19  
civil laws  
some ethical demands v21ff***

## 1. Fulfilment, not abolition v17-18

### ➤ *Its Permanence v18*

*valid insights for all time 2 Tim 3.15-17*

*so, abiding relevance*

*until Christ returns*

## 2. Respect and Obedience called for, vs 17-18

### ➤ *Don't be dismissive of the Old Testament v19*

*greatness is measured in obedience*

*John 14.15*

*work at how it applies to us today*

## **2. Respect and Obedience called for, vs 17-18**

- **Deeper righteousness than religious people v20**  
**Pharisees – prided themselves on observance**
- **God's entry requirements for heaven**  
**law keeping can never gain us a place Gal 3.10**  
**one stumble disqualifies us James 2.10**  
**God's gifts us righteousness**  
**as we put our trust in Jesus**  
**Gal 3.11; Rom 3.20-22**  
**God makes a great exchange 2 Cor 5.21**  
**Christ's righteousness for our sin**  
**God gifts us his Spirit**  
**to help us keep his laws**  
**Jer 31.33; Ezek 36.26-27; John 3.3,5**
- **God's righteousness must be in our hearts**  
**not just on our lips or in actions Mark 7.6-7**