

The Sermon on the Mount: Acknowledging Authority

Matthew 5:17-20

📖 Matthew 5:17 (NIV) “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”

We acknowledge the authority of [Jesus](#) by abiding [in Him](#).

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📖 Matthew 5:18 (NIV) “I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”

📖 Matthew 7:28–29 (NIV) “When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at His teaching, ²⁹ because He taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.”

📖 John 15:5 (NASB) “I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.”

We acknowledge the authority of [Scripture](#) by abiding [by it](#).

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📖 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NIV) “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”


📖 Matthew 5:19 (NIV) “Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

📖 John 8:31–32 (ESV) “...Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

📖 Matthew 5:20 (NIV) “For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

📖 Romans 8:3 (LB) “We aren’t saved from sin’s grasp by knowing the commandments of God because we can’t and don’t keep them, but God put into effect a different plan to save us. He sent His own Son in a human body like ours—except that ours are sinful—and destroyed sin’s control over us by giving Himself as a sacrifice for our sins.”

Digging Deeper— *Cancel Culture* is the belief that to establish something new, we must tear down the old. In

 what ways has *Cancel Culture* infiltrated the Church? How has *Cancel Culture* IMPACTed you? Is there a time when *Canceling* something is the right thing to do? What are we losing by dismissing the past? Is Jesus THE authority in your life? What does it look like to NOT have Jesus as an authority in our life? Is Scripture an authority in your life? Is the Bible trustworthy? —why or why not? What does “*abiding in Christ*” look like? What does “*abiding by the Bible*” look like?