

“The 3 Point Sermon on The Mount”

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Matthew 5-7

We live in a time of change when it appears that
traditions are being discarded and old values ignored.

How often have we heard about
school Christmas pageants being canceled or
the public display of The 10 Commandments being taken down.

It is unfortunate that such expressions of peoples' faith
are discouraged – though I can understand that religious minorities
might find such displays intimidating.

I personally feel religious people of goodwill should be encouraged
to express their faith –

I believe other religions have something to teach me
about my own faith and practice as a Christian.

But as controversial as these debates over Christmas pageants or
the public display of The 10 Commandments can be,
why don't Christians ever talk about the public display of
The Sermon on The Mount?

Well it is pretty long for one thing – 3 chapters,
though it can be boiled down to three points:

1. You have heard that it was said, “One Way”,
but I say to you, “God is still speaking;”
2. So don't pray, donate, serve just for show,
for God is with you wherever you go;
3. Therefore,
'Do unto others as you'd have them do unto you' –
or else!

It's funny how we Christians tend to gloss over these core teachings of Jesus
which also include the Beatitudes, The Lord's Prayer,
as well as The Golden Rule.

But in history, a Russian Orthodox heretic named Leo Tolstoy,
a practicing Hindu named Mohandas Gandhi, and a Southern Baptist
named Martin Luther King were each inspired
in their work to make this a better world

by this sermon spoken on a mountain-side long ago by
a Galilean Jew named Jesus of Nazareth as an enduring blueprint
for what even the American Dream can yet be –
God's Kingdom 'on earth as it is in heaven'...