

PARK STREET

BRETHREN CHURCH

January 10, 2021

Full of Fraud (Matthew 5:4; 23:14)

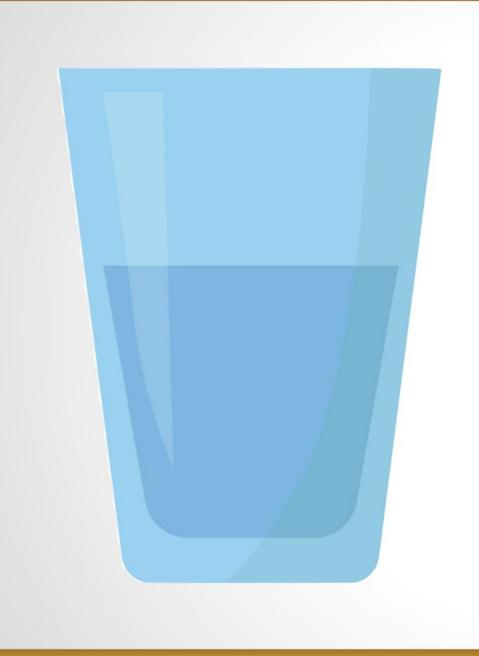
The task of the Church is not to make better Americans but to make more faithful disciples.

The legitimacy of your faith is dependent upon whether you follow Jesus, not whether you oppose or support today's flavor-of-the-day, partisan political figurehead.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:22-25

²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.





Optimist

The glass is half-full.

Pessimist

The glass is half-empty.

Physicist

Technically the glass is always full—it's simply a question of what fills it.

MATTHEW 5:4

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

MATTHEW 23:14

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You devour widows' houses and for pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive the greater condemnation.

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Scripture Posture Reward Matthew 5:3 Poor in Spirit Kingdom of Heaven Matthew 5:4 Comfort

SERMON OF SEVEN WOES

Scripture	Action	Consequence
Matthew 23:13	Keep people from the Kingdom	Will not Enter the Kingdom
Matthew 23:14	Scamming the most vulnerable	Greater Condemnation

MATTHEW 5:43-44

ENEMY-LOVE COMMAND

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

MATTHEW 22:37-39

DOULBE-LOVE COMMAND

³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 23 doesn't exist to show us how awful the opponents of Jesus were THEN or to show us how terrible our enemies are NOW.

Rather the Church should view this passage as a warning to carefully examine our own motivations and behaviors so that we would be authentic disciples.

JAMES 4:1-3

¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

