

ARAMAIC BIBLE COMPANION LESSONS1-10

This is a genuine ABC production  authored by *Bob Coffey* and may not be reproduced or transmitted in any manner for financial profit

Lesson 1 Matthew 5.1-8.17 Jesus teaches acceptance of His authority-His is the ultimate Truth Verily's on vital issues

1. The truth we should accept as to the sources of happiness/blessing 5.1-12

Acknowledgement of abysmal spiritual poverty; sorrow over our spiritual deadness; meekness; spiritual hunger; mercy; purity of heart; surrender to His will; persecution; being salt and light

2.As to scripture originally given 5.17-19 "Verbal inspiration" is what we hold to. Jesus held to the inspiration of each letter י ת (yodh & tittle or detail of the letter). Nothing will pass from Torah till all prophesied therein happens (It contains prophetic matter about Israel) The commandments that Christ will highlight in their applications are to be taught and who denies or relaxes them will be least in the Kingdom of the future.

3.The truth as to Entrance to heaven

A sort of righteousness that is full and overflows (original *πλειον περισσευση*) that of religious men-Pharisees is needed to enter heaven-ie Christ's righteousness communicated by the Holy Spirit.

4The truth on the sixth commandment (on murder) 5 21-26-He never broke it

Burning anger for a brother and warlike rage in calling a brother "godless as to his thoughts" bring danger of the hell of irresistible fire. The corollary is "reconcile quickly" -come to terms with God and with men

5 The truth authority on the seventh commandment (adultery) 5. 27-32 Again He kept it

It is better to loss the right eye or hand than be found in adultery. To dismiss a wife on trivial account is to be an adulterer and give a guiltless person that name as well. Give proof of guilt or a certificate of liberty to the wife.

6 The truth on the ninth commandment 5. 33-37 He observed it perfectly

Do not swear by heaven earth Jerusalem or the head on your body -affirm an honest "Yes" or "No"

7 The truth on retaliatory action or- "getting your own back"(Lex talionis or the law of retaliation)5.38-42

Christ taught non-violent acceptance of harshness-take it on both cheeks, forfeit your coat to the thief and give him your toga too. Go the second mile give and lend

8 The truth on relationships with "others"-who "died for all" 5.43-48

Don't divide men into those near to you and enemies-show love to all men-Like the Father not the tax collector!

9 Jesus, The truth on Giving-who was given of God and gave the Holy Spirit .6 1-4

Don't give to impress an audience nor trumpeting your alms. Rather in secret that God may reward you

10 Jesus, The truth for prayer & fasting prayed daily & fervently 6. 5-18

Not for men's eyes but in the "treasury" (*ταμειον* -Greek original) where you access God's riches-it is a private ministry. Use the seven petitions the Lord taught within the context of His kingdom and glory. On fasting -it is most effective as a private ministry-with no sad signs but rather accompanied by joy and radiance.

11 Jesus, The truth-take on priorities 6 19-34

Bank on heavenly treasures. Let your vision be clear. Don't serve mammon and worry about clothes or food -study the lilies and the birds of the air which God beautifies & feeds. Have no anxious care but "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and you will have enough of all these things!

12 Jesus-the final authority on judgment 7. 1-5

Judging others is like the sawdust-brush shaft story-playing at sorting facts-it's the pot calling the kettle "black"- attitude will factor in judgement. Simply don't judge dismissive judgements. Men dare not play God as judges of final instance.

13 Jesus-the final arbiter on holiness 7.6

Don't fire precious truths at those who have turned their back on you. As pearls owe their beauty to suffering so the doctrines of Christ demanding humility self denial and discipline will be despised unless the Spirit grant new life.

14 Jesus' authority on persistent approach to life 7 7-12

"Ask, seek, knock" was minted by Jesus and works for prayer and in gaining right objectives in life. It works between children and parents. The golden rule "Do to others as you would they should to you" was minted by Jesus & works outstandingly.

15 Jesus mints a statement giving us comprehension of how men can travel as to the way to God7 13-14

The many travel the broad way unaware of the end, few Cassandra like will unaided find the narrow way by its straight gate. cf. *Pilgrims Progress* the need for evangelist. The danger of being lost and the need for direction are explicit here.

16 Jesus authority on prophecy 7 15-20

Jesus as life giver is the final authority on how to live. The best life is not "empty words"; neither is it "wonderful works" -it is ultimately glad submissive obedience to the authority of Jesus in all of this teaching-to fail here is to be foolish to succeed to be wise and to persevere through true faith in God's Son our Saviour to eternal life

17 Jesus the authority on faith 8 1-17

This section on the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ concludes with the "verily" in 8.10 which summarises Jesus' teaching on "The way of Life" by two stories. First, the call was given to the leper who asked to be healed and was to offer the tokens of healing to testify to the Saviour by bringing two sparrows. Second, through the faith of the centurion whose servant was healed- testimony to what implicit trust in Jesus enables is given. This is why we must live fully in the light of Scripture
From paper to practice.



Give three examples of the truth-take of Jesus and anyone who will follow Him on life and relationships?

Give two examples of Jesus authoritative statements on the way to God by faith?

What is the golden rule? Are the commandments of the law currently operative for Christians?

Have you understood Jesus teaching on retribution and judging others?