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Matthew 5:20

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Questions



# The Kingdom of Heaven

## Questions

One,

Who are the scribes and Pharisees?

# The Kingdom of Heaven

## Questions

One,

Who are the scribes and Pharisees?

Two,

What was the character of their righteousness?

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Three,

What is the nature of the righteousness that exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees?

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Three,

What is the nature of the righteousness that exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees?

Four,

How is that righteousness obtained?

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Five,

How is that righteousness clearly manifested in the  
life of a believer?

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How is that righteousness clearly manifested in the life of a believer?

Six,

In what way does that righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees?

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What does Jesus mean when He says, “you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”?

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What does Jesus mean when He says, “you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”?

Eight,

How does this statement fit into the context of what Jesus is saying?



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Jesus was referring to the latter.

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Who are the **scribes** and Pharisees?

They were from the tribe of Levi

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Ezra was such a scribe (Ezra 7:1,5-6)

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They formed a code of morals and ceremonial acts more ridged than the Law of Moses and based on the “traditions of the fathers”

They spent their lives keeping these traditions

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The Jews in Jesus' time had a saying:

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one will be a scribe and the other a Pharisee.”

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What was the character of their righteousness?

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What was the character of their righteousness?

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Three kinds of righteousness spoken of in Scripture:

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# The Kingdom of Heaven

Inherent Righteousness

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## Inherent Righteousness

This is the righteousness Adam had when he left the hands of God His Maker, which none possess by nature today.



# The Kingdom of Heaven

Imputed Righteousness

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Romans 4

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Imparted Righteousness

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Ephesians 4:17-24

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The righteousness Jesus is speaking about in Matthew 5:20 is not an imputed one alone (justification), but an imputed righteousness accompanied by an imparted righteousness (sanctification).



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Both justification and sanctification must never be separated.

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The new creation desires to be like its Creator.

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How is that righteousness clearly manifested in the life of a believer?

This righteousness consists and proceeded from a new creation to holiness.

The new creation desires to be like its Creator.

And it is known by its fruits.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?



# The Kingdom of Heaven

What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;  
old things have passed away; behold,  
all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

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What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Therefore, (condition) if anyone is (what) in Christ, he (result) is a new creation; (to what extent) old things have (past tense) passed away; behold, all things (present) have become new.

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Therefore refers back to verses 14-16.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

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God did not clean up our old nature.



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What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

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Nor did we decide to re-create ourselves anew.

The new creation is completely new,  
brought about from nothing.

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Second, “old things have passed away.” The “old” refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin, reliance on works, and our former opinions, habits and passions.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Second, “**old things have passed away.**” The “old” refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin, reliance on works, and our former opinions, habits and passions. Most significantly, what we loved has passed away, especially the supreme love of self and with it self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-justification.



# The Kingdom of Heaven

What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

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What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Along with the old passing away, “all things have become new.”

# The Kingdom of Heaven

What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Along with the old passing away, “**all things have become new.**”

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What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

Along with the old passing away, “**all things have become new.**” Old, dead things are replaced with new things, full of life and the glory of God.

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And we begin to look and live like the One who created us anew.

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Along with the old passing away, “**all things have become new.**” Old, dead things are replaced with new things, full of life and the glory of God.

And we begin to look and live like the One who created us anew. We are known by our resemblance to the Father.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

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What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?

That you put off, concerning your former conduct, (what) the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed (or made new) in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on (what) the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:22-24



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Christ's righteousness springs out of a heart of love and faith created in the image of God.

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Christ's righteousness springs out of a heart of love and faith created in the image of God.

Their righteousness comes from an evil heart of unbelief and self-centeredness.

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Christ's righteousness springs out of a heart of love and faith created in the image of God.

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One nature is Divine and the other human.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

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The righteousness of the Christian secures an entrance into heaven.



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But the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees does exactly the opposite.

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In what way does that righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees?

The righteousness of the Christian secures an entrance into heaven.

But the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees does exactly the opposite.

It excludes them from heaven.

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In Matthew, the phrase “kingdom of heaven” often refers to the kingdom Jesus establishes when He returns in glory to rule and reign for 1,000 years on the earth.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Seven,

What does Jesus mean when He says, “you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”?

But it can also mean the kingdom of His righteousness, the eternal kingdom promised to those who have placed their faith and trust in Him and have been “born again” to reflect His nature.

# The Kingdom of Heaven

Seven,

What does Jesus mean when He says, “you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”?

“Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted (to turn around, to turn from one course of conduct to another) and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:3

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When Jesus uses the phrase “kingdom of heaven” in this context, He is talking about eternal life with Him in heaven.

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Literally, you will not enter heaven after death.

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How does this statement fit into the context of what Jesus is saying?



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One, Jesus has already stated He did not come to destroy the Law, but to fulfill, or complete it to the fullest (Matt. 5:17-18).

# The Kingdom of Heaven

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How does this statement fit into the context of what Jesus is saying?

Two, Jesus insisted that those who follow Him must maintain the integrity of the Law in both obedience and proclamation (Matt. 5:18).

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Three, Jesus demanded a righteousness that surpassed that of the most outwardly righteous people known at that time (Matt. 5:18).

A righteousness of faith and not human works.

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Is He describing you?

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If so, how do you know?

Can your friends and family tell?

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Does this describe you?

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Does this describe you?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

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And those who are Christ's have (what) crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

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“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:20



