

Message From The Mount

Lesson 6

The Astonishing Teacher Himself (7:28-29)

Introduction

Notice Matthew does not record what kind of "response" Jesus got to His sermon (*baptisms, restorations*). Sadly, we sometimes judge the success of preaching by how many people were baptized or restored to faithfulness. All that is mentioned at the close of the Lord's sermon is the people were "astonished."

There is nothing "mysteriouis" about gospel preaching...no spells or encantations; no manipulation of the mind. It is simply the effects of the voice of God upon the honest human heart. When such a one is presented with truth, he will recognize 1 important thing: the voice of God will always sound like God, and the voice of men will always sound like men. He will be able to tell the difference. Such was the reaction when "The Greatest Gospel Preacher" concluded His *Message From The Mount*.

- 1) What was the crowd's reaction when Jesus finished this sermon? (v. 28) Why were they "amazed?" (v. 29) How might this be a "commentary" on what they regularly heard? (5:19-48)

- 2) Where do you think their "amazement" was...with Jesus *personally* (cp. Isa. 53:2), or with the substance of His message? (cp. Jn. 7:46) Consider the following passages as well in your answer: Rom. 1:16-17; Jn. 1:18; Heb. 4:12; 1 Cor. 2:1-5.