

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #33 – The Sermon on the Mount (Part 1)

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Matthew 5.1-12; Luke 6.17-26

Special Question: Are Matthew 5-7 and Luke 6.17-49 describing the same event? If not, how do we account for the similarities?

1. Why does Matthew remark that Jesus “opened His mouth” to teach? Who was the audience of this sermon? (Matthew 5.1-2; Luke 6.13)

Special Question: Based on our harmony of the Gospels, the Sermon on the Mount is inserted by Matthew out of chronological sequence. Why do you think Matthew chose to place the Sermon in this part of his Gospel?

Special Question: What does the word “beatitude” mean? Why is this word often used to describe Jesus’ teachings in Matthew 5.1-12?

**EXTRA SPECIAL QUESTION:** In the beatitudes, Jesus uses a poetic device called parallelism. There are three kinds of parallelism: synonymous, antithetical, and synthetic. Which one is Jesus using here? What bearing might this have on properly interpreting the beatitudes?