

Living is Believing

An Exposition of the Lord's Prayer

Part One: Context

Overview of the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7)

A. Introduction: The Beatitudes 5:1-10

B. Body: Exposition of Beatitudes 5:11-7:11

C. Conclusion: The Call to obedience 7:12-27

The Sermon's Structure:

The sermon's structure is influenced by the Jewish practice of giving a summary or introduction and then elaborating on the points or themes contained in the introduction in reverse order.

- i.e. 1, 2, 3, then 3, 2, 1.

Scriptural examples:

#1

Genesis 10:1-21

“These are the generations of the sons of Noah, **Shem**, **Ham**, and **Japheth**. Sons were born to them after the flood.

² The sons of **Japheth**: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. ³ The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴ The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵ From these the coastland peoples spread in their lands, each with his own language, by their clans, in their nations. ⁶ The sons of **Ham**: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan. ⁷ The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. . . . ²⁰ These are the sons of Ham, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations. ²¹ To **Shem** also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother of Japheth, children were born.”

#2

1 Chronicles 1:28-34

²⁸ The sons of Abraham: Isaac and Ishmael.

²⁹ These are their genealogies: the firstborn of Ishmael, Ne-baioth, and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, . . . and Eldaah. All these were the descendants of Keturah. ³⁴ Abraham fathered Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel.”

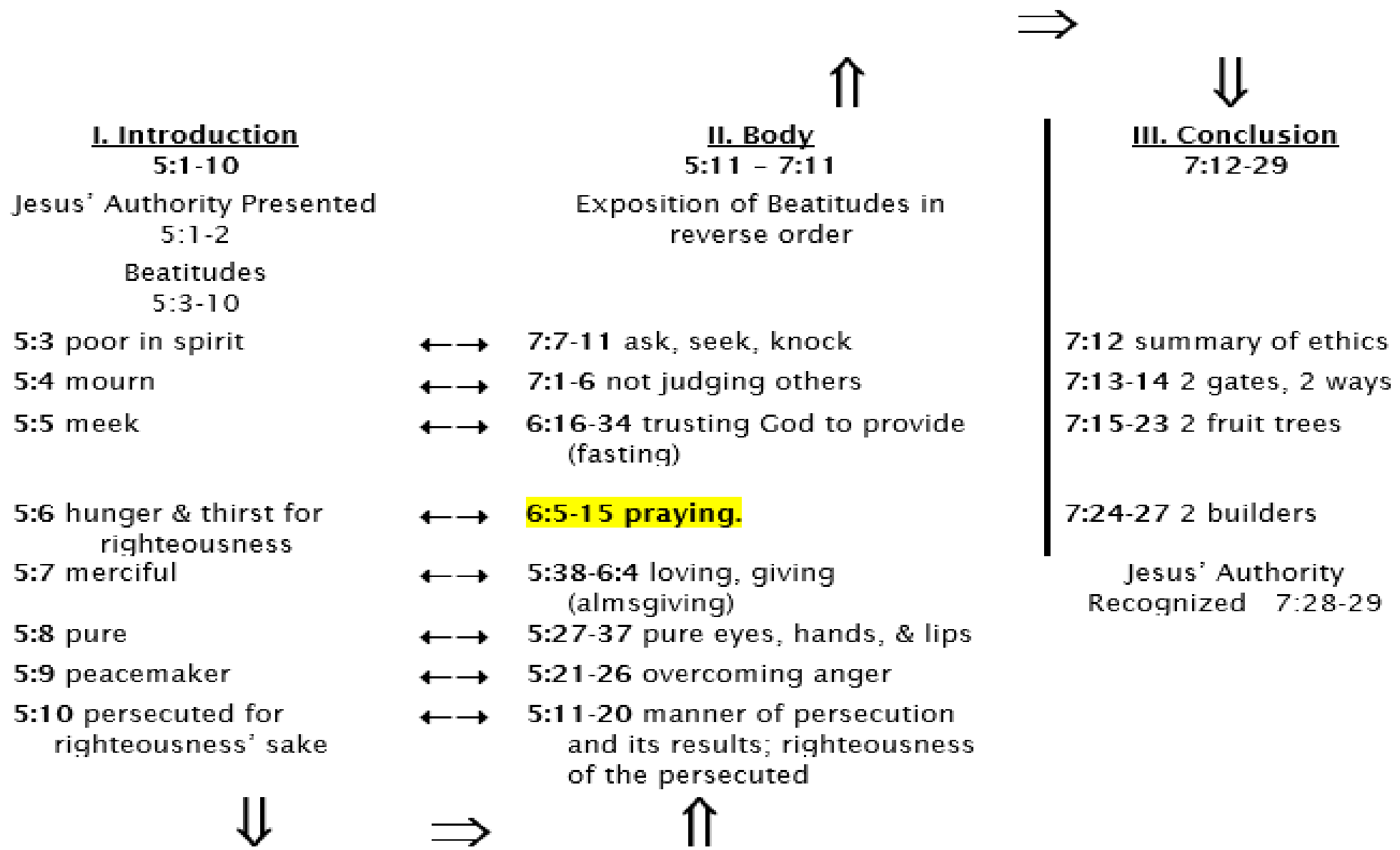
#3

1 Chronicles 23 - 28

1 Chronicles 23:1 When David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel. ² David assembled all the leaders of Israel and the priests (i.e. sons of Aaron) and the Levites.

1 Chronicles 23:3 ³ The Levites, thirty years old and upward, were numbered, and the total was 38,000 men . . . **24:1** The divisions of the sons of Aaron were these. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. . . **27:1** This is the number of the people of Israel, the heads of fathers' houses, the commanders of thousands and hundreds, and their officers who served the king in all matters . . . **28:1-5** David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, . . . Then King David rose to his feet and said . . . And of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons) he has chosen Solomon my son to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

the Sermon's structure:



Matthew 6:5-15

⁵ "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷ "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, ¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.