Inside Out, Upside Down

"For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:17).

The Address

- *The Beatitudes, Salt and Light (5:1-16)*
- *Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law (17-20)*
- *"You have heard it said, but I say unto you" (21-48)*

- *Doing the right things from the wrong motives (6:1-18)*
- *Store up your treasures in heaven (17-24)*
- *Why we must not spend our lives in anxious worry (25-34)*

- *We judge not according to appearance, but fact (7:1-5)*
- *"Ask, seek, and knock" (7-11)*
- *Treat people the way you want to be treated (12)*
- *Two roads, two trees, two destinies (13-20)*
- *The wise and foolish foundations for life (21-24)*

The Authority

- ***No one had ever heard anyone say, "You have heard it said, but I say unto you . . ."***

- ***The people were amazed at His authority, for He spoke from within Himself, quoting no one.***

- ***He would later say, "Your (God's) word is truth" (Jn. 17:17), and to Pilate, "For this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth" (Jn. 18:37).***

The Assault

- *June 26, 2015, a day that will live in infamy – the Supreme Court, by one vote, removes the ban on same sex (marriage) in every state.*

- *This follows the removal of the Bible and prayer from schools, abortion, and no-fault divorce.*

- *Rather than granting more and more freedom, as is the claim, we are being subjected to more and more bondage (Romans 1:18-32).*

The Assurance

- *"The battle belongs to the Lord" (2 Chron. 20:15).*
- *"I will hear from heaven, I will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7:14).*
- *"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).*
- *"Greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4).*

What We Must Do

- ***We must believe these promises; they are inspired of Almighty God!***

- ***We must pray much, much more, thrusting ourselves upon the power of God to rule in our lives and in the future of our country.***

- ***We must be much more vocal – teaching, preaching, speaking out in response to the forces that seek to destroy us.***