

The Sermon on the Mount: Week 2 - Matthew 5:21-30

“The Heart of the Matter”

After telling the Jews that their righteousness must exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus then illustrates what He meant by that statement. He draws a contrast between the righteousness required of His kingdom's citizens and the righteousness of the Jewish leaders.

1. Letter of the Law; Matthew 5:21, “You have heard it was said.”

a. You shall not _____, 6th commandment **Exodus 20:13**

Genesis 1:27 “God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him

b. Whoever murders will be subject to _____

c. Pharisees standard

2. Spirit of the Law; Matthew 5:22, “But I say to you. . .”

a. Jesus is the authority. He sets a higher standard. Who is liable?

(V22) “Anyone who is _____ with his brother will be subject to judgement.”

b. The Lord looks at the things that take place in our heart.

1 Samuel 16:7-

Matthew 15:19- “For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.”

c. Jesus points to the heart of the matter; Anger breaks the spirit of the law

Righteous Anger vs Human/sinful Anger

James 1:19-20 “My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

1 John 3:15 “Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.”

d. Insults/contempt “Raca, You Fool” Do you give life or take life with the words that you speak or the thoughts that you think?

Proverbs 12:18 “There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” **Colossians 3:8** “But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.”

Galatians 5:14-15

3. Illustrations of Reconciliation; Matthew 5:23-26

- a. Go make it right with your brother that has something against you

Ephesians 4:26 “Do not let the sun go down on your anger”

- b. Make it right with your adversary.

4. Adultery and Lust; Matthew 5:27-28 “You have heard it was said.”

- a. You shall not _____, 7th commandment **Exodus 20:14**

- b. v 28) But I say to you whoever _____ has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

James 1:14-15 “But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown bring forth death.”

5. War on Sin, Matthew 5:29-30 Is Jesus speaking literally? What is being stated here?

1.

2.

A steady diet of “inflow” of God’s grace can be transformative for “plucking out at eye” and “cutting off the hand” of inappropriate desire and lust. – Scot McKnight

6. Powered by the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:1-16

John 16:7-16

Romans 3:21-28

2 Corinthians 5:21

