

Matthew: The Life & Teaching of Jesus the Messiah

Lakewood Presbyterian Church

Key Idea: *God's law has always applied to man's heart, for it is out of the heart that proceed acts of murder and the wicked thoughts and words that precede them.*

Lesson 22 Matt. 5:21-26 If Words Could Kill (3-29-26)

I. THE PATTERN: FAITHFUL LAW-KEEPING THE LAWGIVER INTENDED

- A. How do the Six Antitheses relate to Salt & Light? _____
To Fulfillment & Continuity? _____
- B. Is Jesus arguing against Moses? _____
1. Note the form of each introduction: _____
 2. Note each "quote" itself: _____
 3. Note that there is a progression within the Antitheses themselves from the _____
_____ (v.21 & 27) to the _____ (31,33 & 38) to finally an
_____ to the case laws (v.43)

II. THE PHARASAIC METHOD: TAKING AWAY BY ADDING TO (V. 21)

- A. What did the Rabbis add? _____
1. The judgment? Whose? _____
 2. Note Jesus clever rejoinder: _____
- B. What was the Pharisaic goal: _____
- C. Was the Law only concerned with external obedience? (Ex.20:17; Ps.64:3)

III. JESUS' CORRECTION: THE LAW PROPERLY APPLIED (V. 22-26)

- A. What is anger without cause? _____
To say *raca* or call someone a *fool*? _____
- B. Unrighteous _____ is also a _____ of the 6th Commandment.
1. This is no _____. Whoever hates his _____ has always followed the
attitude of _____ & _____ (cf. I John 3:15)
 2. Notice that all _____ originates with the LORD.
 1. The judgment of courts is a foretaste of _____
 2. Jesus' assumption: All sin—not just murder—deserves _____
 3. Jesus does not condemn _____ (Mk.3:5; Mt. 23:17)
 1. Scripture sometimes even _____ it! (Eph. 4:26-27)

Application: When is anger appropriate? What about name-calling & satire?

- C. The solution when we sin: Be _____ (vv. 23-26)
1. Recognize that peace is more important than _____ (cf. Is. 1:11f)

- a. Our obligation is to make peace with an offended _____ inasmuch as it is up to us. (cf. I Cor. 11:17f)
 - b. Re-_____, make re-_____ & re-_____
2. Make peace with your adversary _____ (cf. Eph. 4:26-27)
- a. Our obligation with even an _____ is the same.
 - b. Be reconciled before a _____ gets involved.
 - c. Avoid jail time: As the guilty party, you are going to _____