

## **The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached: The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) #2**

**“Jesus, The Old Testament and The Gospel” (Leviticus 11:44-45; Matthew 5:17-48; I Peter 1:13-16)**

### **Introduction**

\*The Sermon on the Mount through the Centuries: “When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him and he began to teach THEM.... When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching because he taught as one who had authority, unlike the teachers of the law.”

\*The Affirmations and The Challenges of The Sermon on the Mount

\*The Heart of the Christian Life and Spirituality

\**The Divine Conspiracy* (Dallas Willard) and *The Cost of Discipleship* (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

### **I. Jesus came to Fulfill the Law not to Get Rid of it! (Matthew 5:17-20)**

- A. The Law still matters.
- B. Jesus Christ is the One who fulfills The Law and Gives The Law its Full Meaning.
- C. Greatness in the Kingdom of God is measured by our practice and our sharing/teaching these things to others...showing the way of Life in the Kingdom of God.
- D. The Righteousness/Holiness must go beyond “the letter of the Law”.

### **Main Point: Our Actions begin as a Matter of the Heart!**

### **II. Jesus and Murder (Matthew 5:21-26)**

- A. Murder usually begins with undealt anger and bitterness...RACA
- B. Deal with your Anger toward another (ASAP)=seek reconciliation and peace.
- C. Settle matters quickly before they escalate...

### **III. Jesus and Sex and Marriage (Matthew 5:27-32)**

- A. Adultery usually begins with Lust.
- B. Lust is a matter of the eyes of the heart and Adultery is a matter of the “members” of the body.
- C. God hates Divorce and Divorce is a Matter of the “hardness of the heart” not dealt with or infidelity/unfaithfulness...and a special word about abuse!

### **IV. Jesus and Telling the Truth (Matthew 5:33-37)**

- A. Oaths/Vows are only about promises made to God that sometimes include our relationships with other people...example: marriage vows. Covenant!
- B. Let your Yes be Yes and your No be No.

**V. Jesus and An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth (Matthew 5:38-42)**

- A. Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth was a restrictive command against unrighteous vengeance and the law of justice.
- B. Offering the other cheek to an evil person (non-resistance)...go the extra mile against someone who does you wrong or anyone who wants to borrow from you.

**V. Jesus and Loving our Enemies (Matthew 5:43-47)**

- A. Love your Neighbor and Hate your enemy...love your neighbor and your enemy!
- B. The First act of love, righteousness and holiness toward your enemy (and therefore your neighbor) is to pray for them!
- C. This defines you as a son or daughter of God our Father.
- D. God shows grace to the righteous and the unrighteous...
- E. If you only do and act and think like others who are not in Christ, are you living a better life of righteousness/holiness than those who are not of Christ?

**Main Talking Point: Be Perfect/Holy as your Heavenly Father is Perfect/Holy!**

**Conclusions and Applications for This Week...**

**In the Weeks Ahead**

June 10<sup>th</sup> True Christian Spirituality (Matthew 6:1-18)

June 17<sup>th</sup> Don't Worry...Be Blessed (Matthew 6:19-7:12)

June 24<sup>th</sup> The Way, The Truth and The Life (Matthew 7:13-23)

July 1<sup>st</sup> Being Wise in the Eyes of God (Matthew 7:24-29)

**Recommended Reading**

***The Cost of Discipleship: Reflections on the Sermon on the Mount* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

***The Sermon on the Mount: The Message of the Kingdom* by R Kent Hughes**

***The Sermon on the Mount* by Scot McKnight**

***Jesus' Plan for a New World* by Richard Rohr**

***The Message of the Sermon on the Mount* by John Stott**

***The Easy Yoke* by Doug Webster**

***Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard**