

The Sermon on the Mount 06 – Anger, Lust, Divorce

Matthew 5:21-32

Summary of Last Week:

1. Jesus supported, elevated and fulfilled the entire Law
2. Jesus would continue to focus on the inner heart of man
3. created a new Covenant of righteousness centered upon Himself

Anger

21 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

James 1:14-15

Colossians 3:1-2

Philippians 2:1-4

Reconciliation

23 So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. 26 Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Leviticus 19: 16-18

Jeremiah 7:9-10

Psalms 66:18

1 Corinthians 6:1-4 (Message)

Lust

27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.”

Romans 8:13

Colossians 3:5

(over)

Divorce

31 “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ 32 But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Deuteronomy 24:1-4

“The law runs thus: He that would be divorced from his wife, for any cause whatever, as many such causes there are, let him give her a bill of divorce.” (Josephus)

Matthew 19:4-6, 8

Psalms 139:23-24

May we actively and passionately seek the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, rooting out thoughts and desires that can lead us astray, and think on the good things of God.

Next week we’ll continue looking at the topic of giving oaths. We’ll also further explore the topic of how we think about and treat our enemies, whomever they may be. I’ve put a few questions at the end of the outline to assist you as you explore this wonderful passage in Scripture. May God bless your study!

Next week, Matthew 5:33-48. Questions:

1. Jesus would scorn the Pharisees for their many oaths (see also Matthew 23:16-22); why was Jesus opposed to oaths?
2. Why do we think that oaths should be unnecessary for the followers of Jesus?
3. What about taking oaths in court, or even in marriage? How does this compare?
4. In, teaching on dealing with our enemies, Jesus quotes Exodus 21:24. How is His teaching opposed to this principle?
5. How did the Pharisees and other leaders of that day abuse this teaching?
6. What are the advantages of not returning evil for evil? Can you think of other places in the Bible where a person chose to so restrain himself?
7. Summarize the goal in our choice to respond to our enemies as Jesus taught?
8. How did Jesus epitomize this teaching in His own behavior?