

Murder Begins in the Heart
AM Service Matthew 5:21-26 June 10, 2018

Introduction

Jesus and His Ministry

The Beatitudes

The Believer's Circle of Influence

The Substance of Christ's Message

What is the heart of Jesus' message?

Christ begins by telling us what not to think and what we should know.

Christ then emphasizes the enduring authority of all Scripture.

Can we violate God's law?

Do you have a deeper, more radical holiness than the Pharisees?

The Context - Matthew 5:21-48

Murder Begins in the Heart

1. You have heard...but I say...

a. The Law

1. You shall not kill – the 6th Commandment
2. If you do you are in danger of judgment.
3. The point

b. But I say...

1. What is Jesus saying?
2. Three forms of such violation:
 - a. Unjust anger brings judgment.
 - b. Anger accompanied with an expression of contempt
“Raca”
“shall be in danger of the council”
 - c. Anger, with an expression not only of contempt, but wickedness
“Gehenna”

Questions

Are there different degrees of punishment in Hell?

Is anger always wrong?

2. A right heart is more important than an outward act.

How did the Pharisees look at acts of worship?

Jesus taught a different doctrine.

How does this look?

3. Reconciliation may involve self-sacrifice.

What is Jesus teaching us, and what should we do?

1. **Murder is a violation of God's moral law.**
2. **Unrighteous anger in the heart is breaking the 6th Commandment.**
3. **A right heart is more important than an outward act.**
4. **We need to have a deeper, more radical holiness than the Pharisees.**

~ Pastor Mark D. Montgomery