

“Give Us This Day”

Matthew 5: 13 - 16

March 23, 2011

Section 2: A Nature Of True Righteousness Is Promoted By Formative Discipline, (Chpt. 5 – 7)

4. We must be taught the transformative nature of righteousness, (vs. 13)
 - a. Either righteousness has transformed you or it has not, (vs. 13a); *“CONTINUE steadfastly in prayer, being WATCHFUL in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, PRAY also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in PRISON – that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. WALK in wisdom toward outsiders, MAKING the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, SEASONED with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.” (Colossians 4:2-6)*
 - b. The approximation of righteousness will lose its “flavor,” (vs. 13b); *“And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ For everyone will be salted with fire.” (Mark 9:43-49)*
 - c. The approximation of righteousness cannot be “restored,” (vs. 13c); *“For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.” (Hebrews 6:4-6)*
 - d. The approximation of righteousness has no “value,” (vs. 13d); *“For if, after they have ESCAPED the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again ENTANGLED in them and overcome, the last state has BECOME worse for them than the first. For it would have BEEN better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after KNOWING it to turn back from the holy commandment DELIVERED to them.” (2 Peter 2:20-21)*
 - There is no transformative value that should be accepted, (vs. 13d.1); *“For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.” (Hebrews 10:26-27)*
 - There is no transformative value that should be honored, (vs. 13d.2); *“Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.” (Philippians 3:19-21)*
5. We must be taught the enlightening nature of righteousness, (vs. 14 – 16)

“To Be Or Not” Series Outline

Matthew 3 - 12

“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20)

The Lord Jesus Himself Has Told Us That True Righteousness Is Not A Ritual But A Nature, (Chpt. 3 - 12)

- Section 1: A Nature Of True Righteousness Has Been Displayed, (Chpt. 3 - 4)
- Section 2: A Nature Of True Righteousness Is Promoted By Formative Discipline, (Chpt. 5 - 7)
- Section 3: A Nature Of True Righteousness Must Be Applied, (Chpt. 8 - 9)
- Section 4: A Nature Of True Righteousness Is Divinely Expected, (Chpt. 10 - 12)