

Murder in God's Eyes

Matthew 5:21-26

Halifax: 8 February 2004

Introduction:

Have you ever broken the sixth commandment?

- The sixth commandment says,
 - “You shall not murder.”
 - Of the Ten Commandments,
 - this is probably the one the most people would say they have never broken.

But in Matthew 5:21-26,

- Jesus shows us that this commandment involves a lot more than putting someone to death.
- When you look at His exposition of this commandment,
 - you have to admit that you have not kept this commandment.

I. You cannot really understand the commandment against murder until you consider the One who gave us this commandment.

A. The people of Jesus' day had the same problem that we have today when they looked at God's commandments.

- They had detached God's Law from God!
 - Of course they **knew** that the Ten Commandments had come from Him...
 - But what I mean is,
 - They did not keep this simple reality before them.
 - Like us, they did not retain the thought that God who gave the commandments is the One they must finally answer to...
 - But they allowed themselves to set up others in His place and to forget God.

1. Who do we put in the place of God?

a. Often we put the civil magistrate—the earthly judges and rulers of our land—in place of God.

1) You know how people do this—

a) You sin and somebody says something about it and you say,

- “Well it’s not illegal is it?”
 - As if that makes it okay.
- b) I have seen people go into those multi-level marketing schemes—
- You know, the ones in which all the money is made by getting new distributors on board rather than by selling a product...
 - They are not all that way, but many of them are...
 - And how do those participating justify it?
 - They say, “Its perfectly legal.”
 - Maybe it is legal,
 - but that does not mean it is right in God’s eyes!
 - You must not forget that you must finally answer to God!
- 2) This is exactly what the religious teachers in Jesus’ day had forgotten...
- This is the problem that Jesus exposes in verse 21...
- a) Jesus refers to the common understanding when He says:
- “You have heard that it was said to (or by) them of old, You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgement.”
- b) This was certainly true—and it was true from God’s word!
- The problem was not that it was not true!
 - God’s word says that murders are to be judged by human courts:
 - For example, Numbers 35:30 says:
 - Whoever kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death on the testimony of witnesses; but one witness is not *sufficient* testimony against a person for the death *penalty*.
 - There is nothing false about the statement itself!
- c) The problem is when you don’t look beyond the human court to see that you must answer to God for your all your sins...
- You stop short with only those sins that the authorities of this world can either see or are called to deal with.
 - And then you think that whatever you have done that is not dealt with by them will meet with no further judgement!
 - This is a fatal error!

- This is to take God, the most significant searching judge, right out of the picture!
- d) I think this way of avoiding God is much more common than we think.
- 1) Perhaps it all starts when we are children...
 - We think we are okay as long as our parents or our teacher doesn't see what we are doing...
 - If we can get by them, then we are innocent!
 - If the bad attitude remains hidden from them or if they do not think it is serious enough for them to deal with,
 - then we think we are okay—
 - We think that there is nothing more to be said about it!
- b. But do you know what is even worse than this?
- It is to put those who are not even God appointed authorities in God's place as judge!
 - At least God appointed authorities are there to represent God in your, but when you reject them and make your peers the standard,
 - you go even farther away from God!
 - For example, if everyone around you gossips...
 - then you think gossip is okay.
 - Of if your friends think it is perfectly acceptable to tell lies to their parents,
 - then you start to listen to them rather than to God.

TRANS> But there is a yet greater movement away from God than putting our friends in His place as judge...

- c. It is even worse when you put yourself in the place of God!
- 1) This is even advocated in our self-centred society!
 - People say, "As long as you are true to yourself!"
 - "You have to set the standard of what is right for you."
 - Now it is true that you need to this about things that God has not spoken to,
 - but I am not talking about that!
 - 2) I'm talking about when you put your judgement in the place of God's!

- a) Proverbs 16:2 talks about this,
 - All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits.

 - b) We are all very good at justifying ourselves!
 - I bet most of you have been in a situation where you thought what you were doing was okay, but everyone around you thought otherwise!
 - What's even worse is the things you do in secret that you know good and well nobody would approve of!

 - c) Did you ever hear of Two-gun Crowley?
 - He was a notorious criminal who brutally murdered many people.
 - He was finally captured in the spring of 1931 after a gun battle from his girlfriend's apartment.
 - The police found a blood spattered note on him that read,
 - "Under my coat is a weary heart, but a kind one, one that would do nobody any harm."
 - Clearly this man was not answering to God or even to the people around him...
 - He had made himself the standard and had concluded that he had "a kind heart that would do nobody any harm."
 - The truth is, we all come out pretty well in our own eyes when we don't submit to the judgement of God!
2. What Jesus is exposing here is this substituting of anyone other than God to answer to!
- a. Your whole perspective about what constitutes murder changes completely when you come before the face of God...
 - And I don't mean some idol either!
 - And idol is just another substitute for the true God!

 - b. The true God has two characteristics that make Him unique as a judge!
 - 1) First, that He is able to see right down into the deepest recesses of your heart.
 - In 1 Chron 28:9, David tells his son:
 - "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts."

2) The second thing that makes the true God unique is that He by no means clears the guilty.

- Not only are other people unable to see into your heart...
 - There are also many things that they see but do not deal with—for various reasons.
- Solomon said,
 - Ec 12:14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.
- Jesus said,
 - Mt 12:36 "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

c. Everything changes when you know that you are before Him!

- Now it is no longer just what other people see or just what they think...
 - nor is it just what you think!
- It is what God who sees your heart and all your motives thinks about murder!
- When you hear the voice of Jesus, He brings you before the living God to find out what murder is!

B. See how Jesus challenges the popular understanding of every age that forgets God!

1. In verse 22, He says,

- “But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgement. And whoever says ‘raca’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.”
- With this “but I say to you” Jesus is correcting the popular understanding.
 - He is bringing the **true** meaning of God’s commandment and setting it against the traditional understanding of His day.
 - He is bringing those who have ears to hear before God.

2. Jesus is showing you that God judgement will reach you for things that human courts overlook!

a. When you answer to God, you will have to answer for the anger that is in your heart...

1) Other people do not clearly see the bitterness and the malice and the hatred and the resentment that builds up in your heart...

- It may be there right now!

- They may see evidences of it here and there, but for the most part it is hidden from them...
 - But none of this is hidden from God.
 - 2) Jesus says that you are in danger of judgement for your anger.
- b. He also says that you must answer for the angry words you speak to your brother...
- 1) When you say “Raca,” you are in danger of the supreme court (the Sanhedrin)
 - Raca is a term of contempt and disdain...
 - It is like calling someone blockhead or stupid—
 - It is to despise them for their mental weakness or their unattractiveness.

TRANS> But Jesus does not stop here...

- 2) Your judgement will be even greater for calling your brother a fool.
 - a) This is even worse than “raca”
 - “You fool” is an attack on his character...
 - It is to call him a wicked reprobate person...
 - an ungodly wretch who is fit only for cursing!
 - The equivalent for us would be to say “damn you” to our neighbour.
 - b) For this, Jesus says that you are in danger of Hell fire, or Gehenna!
 - Gehenna is the word in the original
 - It refers to the Valley of Hinnom...
 - In Hebrew, Ge means valley,
 - and Hinnom refers to the place where Ahaz offered up his children to Molech.
 - In Josiah’s reforms, the images of Molech were destroyed and this valley was turned into a kind of garbage dump where the carcasses of unclean animals were burned...
 - And where the highest penalty in God’s law was inflicted—that of burning.
 - In Jesus’ day,

- the term Gehenna was used by everyone to refer to the place of everlasting torment—to Hell.
3. In this verse, Jesus seems to be alluding to the three degrees of punishment that had been used by the Jews...
- a. It is difficult to know exactly what these were...
 - But it may be that **the judgement** refers to punishment by hanging or beheading...
 - That **the council** refers to punishment by stoning...
 - And that the **fire of Gehenna** refers to punishment by burning... the most severe form of punishment.
 - b. Whatever the case might be,
 - the main point is that God's judgement will not be light on those who have violated the sixth commandment in His eyes!
 - Just because you escape the judgement of the human court does not mean you will escape God's judgement!
 - Jesus is not advocating here that human courts ought to sentence people to Gehenna for cursing their neighbour...
 - But He is waking us up to realise that God will!
 - God has not given authority to human courts to judge these things because He has appointed a day when He will judge!
 - Many things are left unjudged now until that day!
 - Do not be deceived!
 - Murderers will be judged.

TRANS> But more needs to be said about murder in God's eyes.

- We need to be sure that we understand what it is that is being condemned here.

II. In what does this anger consist that Jesus so roundly condemns?

A. First of all, it needs said that not all anger displeases God.

1. This has to be true because Jesus Himself was angry when He lived among us under the Law of God.
 - a. In Mark 3, we are told of Jesus' anger when he healed the man with withered hand:

- The Jewish leaders were all upset because Jesus was going to heal this man on the Sabbath...
 - And in verse 5 we are told that Jesus:
 - Mark 3:5: looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts.
- b. Then are those places where Jesus Himself calls others fools...
- In Matthew 23:17, He says to the Jewish leaders and teachers,
 - "Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold?"
2. Paul does the same thing...
- In first Corinthians 15:36, he calls those who reject the resurrection fools...
 - "Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies."
 - And in Galatians 3:1, he says:
 - "O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?"
3. The truth of the matter is that anger is actually commended in the scriptures!
- a. One of God's attributes is that He is angry with the wicked every day!
- b. In Psalm 139:21-22, believers are given these words to sing:
- Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.
 - Jesus said that we cannot be his disciples unless we hate our father and mother and even our own life—
 - We must reject them in whatever way they interfere with our obedience to Him.
- c. Anger itself is a good thing!
- 1) The purpose of anger is to move us to correct injustices!
 - Anger is a heat in the soul that arises when some wrong is done.
 - This heat then energises you to set things right!
 - 2) Jesus became hot when saw the moneychangers in the temple!
 - So He took the whip and He drove them out!
 - His anger was used to correct injustice.
 - 3) David gives us a fine example of this kind of anger also

- Why was David so angry when he saw Goliath that he was willing to go and fight him?
- David burned because Goliath was dishonouring God!
 - When he saw him, he said:
 - 1 Sam 17:26: “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”
 - David was incensed because this man was mocking God and David loved God!
- What a marvellous thing this anger...
 - but how rare it is!
 - Oh that we had such a love for God as this!

B. But sadly, the great majority of the time, human anger is the wrong kind of anger.

1. And the reason is this!

a. The thing that stirs up your anger has very little to do with God...

- You are incensed because something has displeased **you**...
- Something has got in **your** way!
- Something has crossed you and you are stirred up until you get revenge!

b. The wrong kind of anger rises in you are zealous to defend the wrong things!

- The problem is that your values are not in line with God’s...
- You don’t esteem what He esteems and defend what He defends...
- Your anger rises disobediently because it is not in subjection to God.
 - It rises independently of God.

2. Let me give you some examples of autonomous anger...

- anger that rises up in you that is not connected to God.

a. First, there is that anger that arises because of a real wrong that was done,

- but does not express itself in obedience to God.

1) A thief comes and steals your television set...

- That is a real wrong, he has sinned against God.

- But the Bible says that vengeance belongs to God...
- That means that you are to hand the thief over to the authorities,
 - but instead you decide to give him a thrashing.
- You did not leave vengeance with God because you did not deliver him to God's appointed authorities.
 - You have taken vengeance into your own hands as if you were God and as if you are the one who was supposed to determine his punishment!

2) Illustration number two:

- Your wife overspends and busts the budget...
 - And so you start yelling at her about it!
 - "You fool," you say...
- There was a just cause of offense,
 - she had sinned...
 - but you did not handle your anger in God's way!
- Instead of patiently and gently correcting her as God enjoins,
 - instead of correcting the wrong that was done...
 - you added your own wrong to the mix and caused even more problems...
 - Your anger has destroyed instead of correcting.
 - you have taken vengeance into your own hands as if you were God!

3) Illustration number 3—

- Your son drops a piece of china and it shatters...
 - He was being a little careless and needs to be corrected...
 - But it was your favourite china!
 - Need I say more!
 - Your anger overflows the banks...
 - Vengeance is mine, I will repay.

4) In a fourth example,

- someone opens his car door and it catches in the wind and bangs into your new car...
- A wrong has been done by the person's negligence and damages should be paid...
- There is a just a cause,
 - but you fly into a rage and say:
 - "You stupid imbecile! (our equivalent to raca)"
- Here again, you have taken vengeance into your own hands.
 - It is legitimate for you to request payment of the damage to your car, but you have no business flying into a rage.
 - These are all examples of taking vengeance into your own hands on account of a real offense.

TRANS> But there is another form of autonomous anger that is just as bad if not worse...

- b. There are those times when your anger rises to defend something that you ought not to defend at all...
- In other words,
 - there is not even a just cause for any anger!
 - This anger rises when you respond to something that is wrong in **your** eyes that is **not at all wrong** in **God's** eyes...
 - Let me given you a few examples...
- 1) A student gets a bad mark that he fully deserves...
 - Instead of humbling himself, he becomes angry with his teacher!
 - He goes around telling everyone what a bad teacher so in so is...
 - His anger is entirely unjustified!
 - It has arisen to defend a wrong in his eyes that is not at all wrong in God's eyes.
 - 2) In a second example,
 - Joe asks Fred to go into a new business scheme with him.
 - Fred refuses because he finds the venture to be unethical...
 - Joe doesn't say much about it, but he resents Fred from then on.

- He says to himself-
 - “Who does he think he is—Mr. Self-righteous?”
 - Raka—he is just a blockhead!
 - Wait until he sees all the money I make!
 - Then he will wish he had listened to me!

TRANS> Joe is angry, but the reason of his anger is entirely unjustified!

3) And now let me say a word to you children—

- Do you ever get angry with your parents when they correct you?
- I’m not even talking about when they correct you unjustly...
 - I’m talking about when you have clearly disobeyed and you know it...
 - and yet you get angry with them for correcting you!
- In God’s eyes, that anger is heart-murder!
 - You are murdering your parents in your heart!
 - Your mother got in your way and so you despise her.
 - You need to ask God to forgive you for it!
 - And if your anger was expressed, you need to ask your mother to forgive you too...
 - Even it was just a grunt or a groan...
 - that is disrespectful and God counts it as if you grunted and groaned at Him!
 - You remember what happened to His people when they groaned at Moses in the wilderness?
 - God counted it that they had groaned at Him!

4) Perhaps one of the best illustrations of this misdirected anger is the anger that a woman shows to her own child!

- She conceives a child against her desires and so what does she do?
 - She aborts the child—
 - the child that God has appointed her to care for and nourish!
 - **She** has determined that this child is unfit to live...
 - And why did she determine this?
 - Because this child is interfering with **her** life!

- That is the wrong that she imagines!
- “How dare this child come and interfere with my life!”
- “He must die!”

TRANS> Do you see how this illustrates the real heart of **all** wrongly motivated anger?

C. Sinful anger occurs when **you** decide that someone else is unfit to live!

1. The problem is, that is not for you to determine!
 - You cannot say,
 - “You worthless person, your fool!”
 - That is the Lord’s prerogative, not yours!
 - He is the one who must decide who is fit to live and die!
 - Are you in the place of God?
2. What is so wrong about all this is that you are looking at your neighbour in completely the wrong way!
 - a. You are looking at your neighbour as there to fulfil you, to please you!
 - And if your neighbour gets in the way of your happiness and pleasure, then you are angry—
 - you consider him worthless and useless and reprobate—
 - all because he did not please **you**!
 - b. But other people are not there for you!
 - 1) Your neighbour is there for the same reason you are... to glorify God!
 - not to glorify you!
 - He is there to reveal God’s glory—
 - either as a vessel of wrath that will be judged...
 - or as a vessel of mercy that will be saved.
 - He is not there for you, but for God!
 - Who do you think you are when you get angry at your brother?
 - 2) And as far as you are concerned, your brother is there for you to glorify God in the way you deal with him...
 - You are to glorify God by living toward that neighbour in accordance with God’s commandments.

- If she is your wife, you are to love her as Christ loved the church... she is there for you to love...
- If he is your husband, you are to respect him and honour him as the church honours Christ...
- If he is your father or she is your mother, you are to honour and obey them.
- If he is your son, he is there for you to nourish up in Jesus Christ.
- If he is your enemy, then you are to glorify God by giving him food when he is hungry and drink when he is thirsty.

c. Sadly, we so often evaluate other people by how well they please us...

- What does this person do for me?
 - How much are they worth?
- You've met people who even say that sort of thing...
 - "Sally is a wonderful person—she is always so kind to me..."
 - "But Betty, I don't have much use for her, she has never been very friendly to me."
 - Everything has to do with me and how I am treated and whether I am pleased by this person!
 - I am angry when they do not please me!

3. Do you see how different this is than the anger that David had toward Goliath?

- In David's eyes,
 - The problem with Goliath was not that he shamed David or that he had injured David or taken his property...
 - The problem with Goliath was that Goliath had defied the living God!
- Like the anger of Christ,
 - David's anger was entirely united to God and His glory.
 - It was not anger that was independent of God!

TRANS> Jesus has shown us that we must answer to God as murderers for all anger in us that is not justified!

- We think it is a little thing, but Jesus shows us that it is a big thing!
 - Jesus knows that we are insensitive to the seriousness of this sin!
 - That is why he insists that it will surely be judged.

III. Jesus advises you to be very earnest and diligent about dealing with sinful anger.

A. In verses 23-24, He shows you that you are unfit to worship until you have done all that you can to reconcile with your brother.

1. Jesus is showing you that you have no access to God as long as you remain unreconciled to your brother through your own fault!

a. God will not hear your prayers or accept your offerings if you are not right with your brother.

- Nor will He be pleased to reveal Himself to you or to feed you and nourish you up in His promises.

b. The Bible has a whole lot to say about this kind of thing as I reminded you last Sunday night.

- You are to clean out the leaven of malice and wickedness before you come to worship...

- If you regard iniquity in your heart, God will not hear you...

- How can you pretend to be a penitent sinner looking for forgiveness if you have sinned against your brother and not made it right.

- Or how can you pretend to be looking to have communion with God if you have not done God's will with your brother.

- Jer 7:9-10 says:

- Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know, and *then* come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations'?

TRANS> And so if you know that your brother has something against you, go to him at once!

2. But what does Jesus mean when He says,

- "If you remember that your brother has something against you?"

a. First, does it mean only with your Christian brother, or with anyone that you have sinned against?

- In this whole passage, I think Jesus speaks about your Christian brother in particular, but that this in no way excludes others.

- If you in anger have done wrong to anyone, you are unfit for worship until you have done what you can to make it right.

- However, this is especially the case with another believer...

- God will not regard you as a son until you regard his other sons as your brothers.
- b. Secondly, what does it mean by “If he has something against you?”
- I think there are three possibilities here for which you should go to him.
 - 1) First, and most obviously,
 - if you know that you have sinned against him in your anger and he has been offended, then you need to go and reconcile...
 - Go and confess your fault to him and ask him to forgive you...
 - And repair whatever damages you have done—
 - If you have slandered him,
 - then go to everyone you have spoken to about him and set the record straight....
 - If you have cheated him or taken something from him,
 - then fully restore what you took.
 - 2) Second, I think you should also go to him if you know that you have sinned against him and he doesn't even know about it yet...
 - I don't mean you need to go if it is only wicked thoughts that you have had against him...
 - Those need to be confessed to God, but you do not need to actually go to your brother in that case...
 - But I mean if you have cheated him or lied to him or something like that and he doesn't know about it...
 - In that case, you need to go and confess your wrong to him and make things right between you.
 - Don't suppose that just because he doesn't know about it,
 - it is acceptable to God!
 - God sees that he has something against you even though he doesn't know about it!
 - 3) Third, you should go if you know that he has something against you, but you are not sure what it is...
 - Go and find out if you have wronged him or if there is some sort of misunderstanding.
 - Your desire should be to clear up whatever has come between you.

- Of course, there are times when you know that his charges against you are unreasonable—
 - You have gone and tried to work things out and taken others with you, but he will not reconcile...
 - either because he won't forgive you though you have repented, or because he is accusing you falsely or illegitimately.
 - If he is a Christian, he needs to be brought before the elders and put out of the church if he still refuses to reconcile with you.

TRANS> The point is, you are to do everything you can to try to reconcile with him.

- If there is a division, it ought to be through no fault of your own.
- This is not a light matter!
 - Jesus says that it is to take priority over worship!
 - But note well, it is not to be used as an excuse to avoid worship either!
 - You are to leave your gift at the altar and return immediately to offer your gift.

B. Jesus urges you to deal with your anger quickly in vs. 25-26!

- Matthew 5:25-26: "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. "Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.
1. Your adversary here is not an enemy,
 - but someone that you have wronged who is seeking justice concerning you.
 - a. The picture is that he is taking you to the judge to be sentenced for the wrong you have done to him!
 - b. Jesus counsels you to try to settle things with him before you get to the judge!
 - It is always worse when the courts get involved because you were too obstinate to admit your wrong and make restitution outside of court!
 - This is certainly true in our day...
 - You may not be cast into prison,
 - but you will be faced with a huge bill for legal process!
 - It is always best to settle without going to court.
 - And it is always best to be willing to do a little more than you think is really required...

- Be humble enough to understand that everyone—including you—is going to be too easy on ourselves.
2. But Jesus is not talking here about mere human courts!
- As we have seen, His whole point here is to bring us to deal with God!
 - He is using human courts to illustrate God’s courts!
 - a. There is a sense in which the whole human race is “on the way” to stand in judgement before God...
 - You are “in the way” to God’s judgement with all your neighbours.
 - And the message of Jesus is to prepare yourself for that time by restoring whatever wrongs you may have done to others.
 - Go out of your way to do all that you can to make reparations!
 - b. Remember in this that you are living before the face of God!
 - 1) Your adversary may not even know that you have wronged him—
 - but God knows and you must answer to Him for whatever wrongs you have done to your brother.
 - 2) Do you remember how Able testified to God about Cain when Cain killed him?
 - The Bible says that Able’s blood cried out from the ground against Cain.
 - In other words, Able himself didn’t have to say a word to testify against his brother before God’s tribunal!
 - 3) It may be that your neighbour does not even know you have wronged him or think there was any wrong in what you did.
 - But God will still hold you to it!
 - Do you remember in Ezekiel where he tells Ezekiel to warn the people about their sin?
 - And he goes on to say, “If you warn them and they do not repent you are innocent...”
 - But if you do not warn them, then I will require their blood at your hand.
3. So here you are, in the way with the whole human race, on the way to stand before God the judge.
- a. Jesus is telling you to make things right with your brother before you get there!

- b. When you get to the judgement it will be too late to repent!
 - You will have to pay the entire penalty then!
 - You will never be released because you will never be able to pay it all!
 - God will deal with you as a murderer because that is what you will be in His eyes.

Conclusion

But the good news is that God has given us a way to deal with all our sins!

- You are held to this high standard, but you need not be condemned because of it!
- Remember that Jesus Christ has come to fulfil the law for you!
 - He has come to make full satisfaction for your sins!
 - This does not mean there is no need for you to repent of your sins...
 - But it means that when you repent, there is forgiveness with God!

If you are a person who refuses to deal with the murder you commit in God's eyes,

- you need to repent and go to Christ for mercy before it is too late!
- There is a way to make satisfaction before you get to the judgement seat...
 - but if you justify yourself and pretend that God's commandments do not reach you...
 - then there will be no mercy for you in that day, but you will have to pay the full penalty of a murderer.
 - Remember the beatitudes...
 - The blessed ones are not the ones who pretend to have no sin,
 - but the ones who are poor in spirit, who mourn, who are meek, or hunger and thirst for righteousness.