

## **The Gospel of Matthew #41**

### **Sermon on the Mount: Jesus and the Law and you: 3**

- I. The Law and Jesus: v17-18
  - A. Not abolish but fulfill: v17
  - B. Not disappear but accomplished: v18
- II. The Law and you: v19-20
  - A. Fidelity to the Law means greatness IN the Kingdom: v19
  - B. Righteousness more than Pharisees to ENTER the Kingdom: v20

## **HOW GOOD DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO GET TO HEAVEN?**

### **Matthew 5:20**

Shock! You must be better than the most religious, spiritual people you know.

Like saying, You must be better than Mother Theresa!

People thought, I could never be as good in God's eyes as a scribe or Pharisee

What is Jesus saying?

This is key to rest of the Sermon, particularly ch 5:

The righteousness He is speaking of is:

I. Not \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_

Pharisees: precise but external; details matter

Jesus: heart and internal; motives matter

He goes on in the rest of ch 5 to give 6 examples

"You have heard it was said...But I tell you...."

II. Not on a \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_

Cf. v47

Self-satisfied because they better than others (Lk 16:15)

Eg: Lk 18:9-14 Pharisee & tax collector

III. Not \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_

Made clear after His resurrection, but hints in Matt before:

20:28;

26:27-28

So what

1. Do you have this righteousness?

It is absolutely necessary to **ENTER** the Kingdom of Heaven (v20)

There is no more important Q in your whole life.

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*It is possible to be a lost evangelical, as the Pharisees were.*

- Not from what you do or \_\_\_\_\_ like
- Not from \_\_\_\_\_ yourself with others
- Not from \_\_\_\_\_ yourself better inside

Only Christ's righteousness passively received as a free gift

2. Are you, as a Christian, focusing more on the outside (what you look like to others) than what is in your heart?

The Gospel is all about the heart.

A new heart. A changed heart.

Jerem 31:33; Ezek 36:25-27

And only Jesus can do that, by His Spirit.

Are you experiencing that?

Apply this specifically to a sin you feel in bondage to.

Let the Law crush you so you despair of keeping it for credit, so that the sacrifice of Christ grows more precious to you, and His grace more beautiful and amazing to your soul.

Come in weakness to Him now.