

November 9, 2014 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

PART 37: JESUS INTERPRETS THE LAW

Sermon on the Mount: **PART 4** *Matthew 5:21-48*

YOU'VE HEARD IT SAID:	BUT I SAY TO YOU:
Do not murder or you'll face God's judgment. (5:21) [Exodus 20:13 and 21:12]	Anger toward your brother or sister will send you to hell. (5:22-26) {See also 1 John 3:15]
Do not commit adultery. (5:27) [Exodus 20:14]	<i>If you lust you're committing adultery in your heart.</i> (5:28-30) [See also 1 Samuel 16:7]
You can divorce your spouse for any reason.	God hates divorce, cherish your marriage.

(5:31) [Deuteronomy 24:1-4]

your marriage. (5:32) [See also Matthew 19:3-12]

Do not break your vows. (5:33) [Leviticus 19:12] Don't make vows, just be a man or woman of your word. (5:34-37) [See also James 5:12]

YOU'VE HEARD IT SAID:

BUT I SAY TO YOU:

An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. (5:38) [Exodus 21:24; Deut. 19:21; Lev. 24:20] Turn the other cheek. (5:39-40) [See also Romans 12:19-21]

Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. (5:41) [Leviticus 19:18]

Love your enemies, too. (5:42-47) [See also Romans 12:14-21]

GOD'S STANDARD FOR YOUR LIFE

Jesus says, "If you want to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, you must be **PERFECT**, just as your Father in Heaven is perfect." (5:20; 5:48) [See also Leviticus 19:2 and Luke 6:36]

The standard is not how you measure up next to **OTHER PEOPLE** ; the standard is how you measure up next to <u>GOD</u>.

So... how are you doing at perfection?

YOUR ONLY HOPE!!!

Your only hope to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, is to give Jesus your <u>SIN</u> and let him give you his <u>**RIGHTEOUSNESS**</u>. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

...And this *only* happens through **FAITH** in Jesus Christ. (John 3:36; 6:47; 11:25-26; Romans 3:22; Galatians 2:16; 2:20; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 3:9) 1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Open Your Group in Prayer. Use the Prayer Guide on the next page for Suggestions.

- 1. Think of the people you know (or have observed) from various religious faiths. What are some of the different prescriptions they are following in their attempts to please God or find eternal life?
- 2. How much peace of mind do these people seem to have?
- 3. What's the problem with trying to do things in order to earn favor with God?

Using the New Living Translation, Read Romans 3:21-4:25.

- 4. Why does Paul argue that, when it comes to one's standing before God, no one has the right to boast or be filled with religious pride?
- 5. Go back and circle every word or phrase in this passage that describes what God has done.
- 6. Paul goes to some lengths to demonstrate that Abraham was justified in the sight of God long before he was ever circumcised. Why was this an important argument for him to make to his Roman audience?
- 7. What is the purpose or effect of God's law (4:13–15)?

Using the *New Living Translation*, Read Galatians 3:6-25 (note the parallels with Romans 3:21-4:25).

- 8. How does Galatians 3 underscore Paul's argument in chapters 3 and 4?
- 9. What incidents from the life of Abraham and Sarah does Paul use to make the case that salvation is by divine power, not human effort?
- 10. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.** If God's wrath is directed toward unrighteousness, and His favor is directed toward righteousness, what are the wonderful implications of this verse for believers?
- 11. Some Christians view God's law and His grace as contradictory. Based on what you have seen in this lesson, how would you harmonize these two truths?
- 12. If salvation were by human effort, we could boast. Since salvation is all of grace, what is the proper response of the redeemed?
- 13. What friends, neighbors, and family members do not yet understand the concept of righteousness by faith? Pray that God will open their eyes to this truth.

This week's study is taken from John MacArthur, Romans: Grace, Truth, and Redemption, MacArthur Bible Studies (Nashville, TN: W Publishing Group, 2000), 23–32.

PRAYER GUIDE

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 2014

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items. Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

> **NOTE:** Due to the sensative nature of some items on the Prayer Guide, we do not publish it online. Email the church office to sign up for the email prayer list: office@wawaseebible.com

Personal Prayer Items