

Sermon on the Mount – Part 2
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You can't be a really good person if you don't get it straight about _____ and who is _____ . Temptation will always defeat you. Sin will grab you and take you in.

1. Who is a Really Good Person?

After the Beatitudes, Jesus then says to these people out in front of him, "You're the _____ of the world. You're the _____ of the Earth" (Matthew 5:13-14).

They never expected anyone to say that to them!

Jesus is the Light of the world, but you don't get off the hook. We are now _____ with Christ _____ .

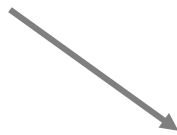
We are fulfilling the call of dominion.

Genesis 1:26: "Let us make man in Our image...let them have dominion...over all the earth..."

We're doing it in love.

That means we are creating _____ wherever we go in the power of God. We do it (reign with Christ) where we _____ and _____ , not just in church.

The people said "This guy is preaching revolution!"



Jesus said no.

Matthew 5:17: "Do not think that I have come to destroy the law. I am come to see how the law is fulfilled." *Jesus said that because He knew that is what they were thinking.*

The law _____ will take care of revolutions.
Revolutions are restricted to force, not power.

Jesus comes with the kingdom of God and redefines goodness in human terms for you.

Matthew 5:20 is the key to everything that follows, "Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees..."

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Jesus says that if you do not go beyond the righteousness of the scribe and Pharisee you will not enter the kingdom of the heavens. That verse is not talking about going to heaven when you die. He's talking about entering an interactive relationship with the kingdom of God here and now, and He's saying if you try to do that at the level of action, you'll never make it. God will not meet you. He will not act with you.

The righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees was a righteousness of action that said, "If I can just control my actions, I'm okay." The righteousness of the kingdom moves not to actions, but to the source of actions.

Spiritual disciplines are not about behavior modification. You have to change the sources of the action.

Jesus takes the two primary sources of wrong behavior: _____ and _____. If you pull those out of human life, nearly everything that's done wrong will disappear.

Sermon on the Mount:

"A GOOD TREE CANNOT BRING FORTH BAD FRUIT"

TRUST IN JESUS WILL BRING US TO BEING THE KIND OF PERSON WHO:

- a. Lives free of contempt and anger (Matthew 5:21-26)
- b. Is free from domination by sexual lust and disgust (5:27-32)
- c. Is free of desire to dominate and control verbally (5:33-37)
- d. Is free from grudges, "fairness," and "paying back" (5:38-42)
- e. Is able to love enemies and bless those who curse, etc. (5:45-48)
- f. Does not "perform" for human credit (6:1-18)
- g. Does not trust in physical substances (money, etc.) (6:19-34)
- h. Does not manage others by condemnation/ "condemnation engineering" (7:1-12)

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Anger

The law says you shall not kill.

Jesus begins talking about the _____ conditions of the heart.

“Who is _____ with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother ‘*Raca*’ [a term of contempt] shall be in danger of the council...” Matthew 5:22

What is Jesus doing? He’s moving into attitudes. Jesus is teaching about how you think about people. Jesus wasn’t talking about the _____. He was talking about the _____.

“Therefore, if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember your brother has something against you, leave your offering and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, then come and present your offering...” (Matthew 5:23-24).

This was shocking because the rule was that you could not interrupt a procedure in the Temple for a moral reason.

He is describing someone who is so sensitive to their brother that they can’t wait to make things right and to secure that relationship.

Jesus deepens as he goes.

Suing someone

Kingdom system – You have a cause between you and another person, and you try to work it out.

Jesus says make friends quickly with your opponent at law. He doesn’t say don’t sue people. *Love* the people that you are going to sue. It’s the heart of _____ that Jesus is talking about.

Jesus is saying that if you don’t do this, you will get caught in the other (human) system and it will _____ your life.

Don’t make Jesus’ teaching legalism.

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Lust

The old law said thou shalt not commit adultery.

Jesus is talking about learning to love and _____ people.

People say, "I didn't do the deed." Do you use another person to excite your lust? Do you enjoy cultivating it? Have you, in your heart, consented to the deed though you're not going to do it? *A woman is not to be used in that way. A man is not to be used in that way.*

What is the answer? You actually _____ them. You learn to love them too much to do that.

In dealing with pornography, you have to work with the mind.

Who am I to sit there and cultivate my lust by looking at a person? What does that say about me? Am I so needy that I have to do that? Is that where I get my satisfaction? Is loving people better than lusting people?

Jesus again deepens the teaching. It goes into the heart of all the issues of lusting. This is deeply a teaching about desire.

Desires rule the world, and people learn to run with the desires and then all the troubles come out of that.

Swearing

Jesus says don't do vows, don't swear.
Why?

Swearing is a way of trying to impress people with irrelevant things to get them to do and believe what you want them to do and believe. It comes from evil; it comes from the _____ to manipulate.

2. How to Become a Really Good Person

Jesus is saying, "If you want to be a really good person, you need to be filled with _____." Agape love takes care of it all. Who is a really good person? Someone who is filled with agape love.

A really good person keeps the law.

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Paul explains in Romans 13 that he that loveth _____ the law.

Fulfilling the law isn't loving. Loving leads to fulfilling the law; it does that because one has stepped into union with Christ and his kingdom in such a way that I don't need to hate this person or be angry with them because they crossed my will.

My will is _____ to God. I am in the care of God.

All anger comes from the _____ being crossed. The surrender of the will to _____ solves the problem of anger. Now you can still stand up for what is right. You just don't have to be angry to do it. And you can actually do it much better – much more effectively – if you're not angry.

3. Summary

- The Sermon on the Mount proclaims the kingdom of God.
- The reality of the kingdom of God points out who is blessed and who is not.
- When you step into the righteousness of the kingdom, then fulfilling the things that are right in behavior naturally come out of that.
- How do you do it? *Discipleship*

*The heart that Jesus gives us----seen in the
Sermon on the Mount:*

"A GOOD TREE CANNOT BRING FORTH BAD FRUIT"

The "commands" of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount are invitations to be a certain type of person, a person who through faith and discipleship to Him has become inwardly transformed so that His behaviors flow naturally (supernaturally, of course) from who they now are as His mature brothers and sisters under the present rule of God.