

Kingdom Living

Studies From the Sermon on the Mount

Heart-level Righteousness

Matthew 5:21-26

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²¹ “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ ²² But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court.² And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

²³ “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

²⁵ “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.”

Main Idea: Jesus Reveals a Fuller Expression of God’s Will for God’s People.

1. Jesus Radically Redefines Murder (vv. 21-22)

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- Jesus shifts the focus from the action to the attitude.

2. Jesus Calls His Followers to Radical Reconciliation (vv. 23-26)

- Reconcile with believers who have something against you.

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²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

- Reconcile with your enemies quickly.

²⁵ “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.
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3. Jesus Reveals the Radical Realities of Kingdom Living

- Reconciled Relationships Express Kingdom Realities.
- Reconciled relationships require intentional action.