

The Sermon on the Mount:

The Spirit of the Law

Text: *Matthew 5:21-48*

I. Introduction

1. Jesus now continues to give examples of this surpassing righteousness He just spoke of in verse twenty of chapter five.

II. What Jesus Sought to Do

1. Jesus sought to bring _____ to what man over time had made cloudy
2. Jesus shone a light on the _____ of the problem before addressing the _____
3. The _____ of the Law has more importance than the _____ of the Law

III. Jesus' 1st Example: Murder and Anger (5:21-26)

1. Jesus explained that murder is the symptom of an _____ heart
 - i. Anger leads to hatred in your heart, and disturbs your relationship with others as well as the ability to please the Lord in worship
2. The time for reconciliation is always _____

IV. Jesus' 2nd Example: Adultery in the Heart (5:27-32)

1. God has *always* defined marriage as one _____ and one _____ for _____
2. As anger is the seedbed of murder, _____ is the seedbed of adultery

3. Adultery in the heart has to do with looking with the purpose to fulfill a lustful _____
4. Jesus' solution to this is to remove that which is causing you to _____
5. The Lord's remedy for the wicked heart is a _____ heart, that trusts in _____'s sufficiency

V. Divorce and Remarriage

1. The confusion is not with _____ but with _____
2. The religious elite had been _____ the teachings on marriage and divorce for some time
3. _____ represents a destruction of God's work
4. Nowhere in Scripture does God _____ divorce
5. The Lord presumed that people would _____ when a divorce occurred

VI. Conclusion

1. A believer is going to live a life where they know the importance of reconciling with those they have wronged
2. A believer honors God and their neighbors by living in God's love
3. A believer knows the supreme importance of honoring God in their commitment to their spouse, so that the vicious cycle of broken homes stops with them

Answer Key:

What Jesus Sought to Do

- a. Jesus sought to bring **CLARITY** to what man over time had made cloudy
- b. Jesus shone a light on the **SOURCE** of the problem before addressing the **SYMPTOMS**
- c. The **SPIRIT** of the Law has more importance than the **LETTER** of the Law

Jesus' 1st Example: Murder and Anger (5:21-26)

- a. Jesus explained that murder is the symptom of an **ANGRY** heart
- b. The time for reconciliation is always **NOW**

Jesus' 2nd Example: Adultery in the Heart (5:27-32)

- a. God has *always* defined marriage as one **MAN** and one **WOMAN** for **LIFE**
- b. As anger is the seedbed of murder, **LUST** is the seedbed of adultery external because the problem is not external.
- c. Adultery in the heart has to do with looking with the purpose to fulfill a lustful **DESIRE**
- d. Jesus' solution to this is to remove that which is causing you to **SIN**
- e. The Lord's remedy for the wicked heart is a **REDEEMED** heart, that trusts in **CHRIST**'s sufficiency

Divorce and Remarriage

- a. The confusion is not with **GOD** but with **MAN**
 - i. **RELAXING** the teachings on marriage and divorce for some time
 - b. The religious elite had been
- c. **DIVORCE** represents a destruction of God's work
- d. Nowhere in Scripture does God **COMMAND** divorce
- e. The Lord presumed that people would **REMARRY** when a divorce occurred