

Matthew Lesson 04

5:13-16 Salt and Light

1. Both salt and light are used by Jesus to explain the importance of the believer in the world. What is the importance of salt in the world and how do we act as important as salt?
2. What is the importance of light in the world and how do we act as important as light?

5:17-20 The Fulfillment of the Law

Jesus had to do everything properly or he would not be our substitute and save us. He did not come into the world to get rid of the Law, but to live perfectly according to the Law.

A Pharisee prided Himself on doing everything right according to the Law. He believed he was good enough to deserve to go to heaven. He made sure people who were not as good as the Pharisees would know that their lack of good works condemned them to hell.

Matthew 5:48—“Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Titus 3:5—He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy.

The words of Jesus in this are not teaching us that we can save ourselves through our good works. They show us that we need a Savior who is Jesus.

5:21-26 Murder

Fifth Commandment—You shall not murder. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need.

Jesus explains that any action on our part that causes or allows anger and hostility to exist between ourselves and our fellow Christians, possibly strangers too, is wrong. The potential is there to hurt a person's life. If a person dies unexpectedly or when they are young, they may miss the chance to hear of Jesus and be saved. We call life a time of grace because once a person dies he or she is either saved or lost forever.

Isaiah 55:6—Seek the Lord while he may be found.

In verses 23-26 Jesus gives two examples of the way we are to be at peace with our fellow Christians.

3. What is wrong with coming to church and asking the Lord to forgive your sins while you are fighting with your fellow Christian?

5:27-30 Adultery

Sixth Commandment—You shall not commit adultery. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God that we lead a pure and decent life in words and actions, and that husband and wife love and honor each other.

Jesus helps us see that sinful thoughts are just as bad as sinful actions. The Lord is serious about sin. Jesus is not saying we should destroy parts of our body that do sinful actions.

4. Where does sin begin?

James 1:14—Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

5:31-32 Divorce

Marital unfaithfulness is the reason divorce is allowed. God intends a man and woman to be married as long as they both are alive.

5:33-37 Oaths

5. What is swearing?
6. In what room do people properly take oaths, and for what purpose?

If you tell the truth all the time, then there is no need to take an oath. Always be truthful when you speak. Do not confuse swearing with speaking profanity, bad words.

5:38-47 An Eye for an Eye; Love for Enemies

Jesus leads us to see the difference we can make when we seek to be a help for others.

7. Jesus asks us to do what he did. Return love and help even to those who would hurt us. When did Jesus do this?
8. Who can repay us with a blessing when something bad happens to us or something is taken from us?