



More Radical Righteousness
Series: *The Sermon On The Mount*, #8
Matthew 5:33-48
July 11, 2021

Radical righteousness produces ...

Truthfulness, not deception.

1. Some background on vows or oaths.
(33-37; see also Genesis 23:1-16; 24:7; 26:13; Deuteronomy 6:13; 8:18; 28:9; 29:13; Leviticus 19:12; Numbers 20:12 [with Deuteronomy 1:37; 4:21]; Psalm 89:3-4, 35-36; 110:4; Acts 2:30; Hebrews 7:17-22)
2. The view of the scribes and Pharisees. (See also Matthew 23:16-22)
3. Jesus' clarification on vows or oaths. (33-37)

Sacrifice, not retaliation.

1. Some background on the Old Testament Law on retaliation.
(Exodus 21:22-25; Leviticus 19:17-18; Proverbs 20:22)
2. The view of the scribes and Pharisees.
3. Jesus' clarification on retaliation. (38-42; see also Acts 22:22-29; James 1:17)

Love, not hatred.

1. Some background on the Old Testament Law on love and hate.
(43; see also Leviticus 19:17-18)
2. The view of the scribes and Pharisees. (43)
3. Jesus' clarification on love and hate. (44-48)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Radical Righteousness produces truthful speech. Is your speech accurate and reliable? Do you have the tendency to shape or shave the truth? Do others readily take you at your word — more than once? Your speech is a reflection of your character. As you review your speech, identify any tendencies or practices which need to be brought in line and commit yourself thirsting after the righteousness of truthful speech.

Tuesday. Radical Righteousness brings about love to replace retaliation. Review Jesus' teaching in 5:39-42. How did the spirit of the Law as clarified by Jesus and the interpretation of the scribes and Pharisees differ? How do you measure up?

Wednesday. List several situations in which you have suffered unfairly. Using the guidelines in 5:39-42, write out a response of righteousness that you can, could have or did follow.

Thursday. Review 5:43-48 where Jesus clarifies love which flows from radical righteousness. What was the error of the scribes and Pharisees, which both the Old Testament Law and Jesus condemned? You don't hate anyone — right? Do you consistently show love to people who do not respect you or do not treat you fairly? Commit yourself to love for others which God has shown to you (see Romans 5:8-10).

Friday – Saturday. Sunday we will continue with Matthew 6:1-8 with the emphasis on radical righteousness never being a performance. Read and think through these verses as you prepare for our time of worship together.