

# The Gospel of Matthew

*“Kingdom Righteousness”*  
Matthew 5:21-26

## Matthew 5:20

*“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

– Jesus

## Matthew 5:21-48

*“You have heard it said...but I say to you”*

### ➤ Overview

1. He is contrasting Pharasaic distortion/limitation of the Law with His authoritative pronouncement of the Law's true direction

## Matthew 5:21-48

*“You have heard it said...but I say to you”*

### ➤ Overview

2. He promotes an “inward” concern with motive and attitude above the “outward” focus on visible observance

## Matthew 5:21-48

*“You have heard it said...but I say to you”*

### ➤ Overview

3. He is concerned not so much with the avoidance of specific sin but with the more demanding goal of conforming to the righteousness of God

## Matthew 5:21-26

“You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘whoever commits murder shall be liable to judgment.’

But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; and whoever shall say to his brother, ‘*Raca*,’ shall be liable to the council; and whoever shall say, ‘*You fool*,’ shall be liable to the fiery hell...”

## Anger & Reconciliation

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### 1. The inward attitude of anger is as liable to God's judgment as the outward act of murder

- angry feelings and contemptuous words equally deserve God's judgment
- despising your brother imperils your soul!

## Anger & Reconciliation

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### 2. Seeking immediate reconciliation with your brother is an ongoing priority

Illustration #1: (temple setting)

- reconciliation with your brother is a higher priority than formal worship

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### 2. Seeking immediate reconciliation with your brother is an ongoing priority

Illustration #2: (judicial setting)

- do everything to make reconciliation lest you fall under God's judgment

## Anger & Reconciliation

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### Application

1. Where do we get the resources to forgive and not be angry?

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*God's unsurpassed mercy towards us in Christ!*

## Anger & Reconciliation

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### Application

2. Are you harboring anger or resentment against anyone today?

Or does anyone have something against you because of a wrong you did?