

# GREATEST CHAPTERS IN THE BIBLE-10

## MATTHEW, CHAPTER 05

### I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. Tonight's class is divided into 3 parts:
  - 1. What true righteousness is (Mt. 5:1-16).
  - 2. How true righteousness comes (Mt. 5:17-20).
  - 3. True righteousness in our daily lives (Mt. 5:21-48).
- C. Of course, our righteousness comes from X. It is because of what He did on the cross that we can be considered righteous (2Cor. 5:21).  
*He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

### II. WHAT TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS IS.

- A. Text: see Mt. 5:1-16.
- B. The beatitudes are all about *attitude*. Attitude is 90% of the battle. With a good attitude anything is possible. Jesus tells us what a good attitude is all about.
  - 1. Our attitude toward ourselves (see 5:3).  
We are to be humble and contrite in spirit, just like X (Mt. 11:29).  
*“Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and YOU SHALL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.*
  - 2. Our attitude toward our sins (see 5:4-6).  
We are to mourn, be meek, and hunger for righteousness.
  - 3. Our attitude toward the Lord (see 5:7-9).  
We are to be merciful; pure in heart, and peacemakers all of which God is.
  - 4. Our attitude toward the world (see 5:10-16).  
We are to rejoice in our sufferings for the name of X (our reward is great).
- C. Once the attitude and heart is right then everything else gets easier.

### III. HOW TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS COMES.

- A. Text: Mt. 5:17-20.  
*“Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. [18] “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. [19] “Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. [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.*
- B. Jesus knew the importance of the Law (see 5:17a).  
He did not try to abolish it; rather He respected its authority and fulfilled it!
- C. Jesus, wants us to seek the good in the Law and teach others about it (see 5:18,19).  
Even though law identifies our sin, it is good in helping us live the way we should. We now serve the law of X (see Rom. 8:1-3).

### IV. TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

- A. Text: see Mt. 5:21-48.
- B. Jesus addresses various areas of life and how each one is to be done in righteousness. The important thing to remember is that Jesus is teaching about the thought behind the deed. He is talking about attitude. Make the necessary applications to the situations and relationships in your life.
- C. Notice the following areas which Jesus spoke about:
  - 1. Murder, and the hate behind it (Mt. 5:21-26).  
*“You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ [22] “But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his*

brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever shall say to his brother, ‘Raca,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever shall say, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty *enough to go* into the fiery hell. [23] “If therefore you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, [24] leave your offering there before the altar, and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. [25] “Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, in order that your opponent may not deliver you to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. [26] “Truly I say to you, you shall not come out of there, until you have paid up the last cent.

Exodus 20:13 is quoted, but Jesus also condemns causeless anger. To get rid of the sin of murder, we must first get rid of the sins of hate and anger.

2. **Adultery, and the lust behind it** (Mt. 5:27-30).

“You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY’; [28] but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart. [29] “And if your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out, and throw it from you; for it is better for you that one of the parts of your body perish, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] “And if your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off, and throw it from you; for it is better for you that one of the parts of your body perish, than for your whole body to go into hell.

Exodus 20:14 is quoted, but Jesus also condemns , the illicit feeding of one’s sexual appetite. To get rid of the sin of adultery, one must first get rid of the sin of lust.

3. **Divorce, and the unfaithfulness behind it** (Mt. 5:31,32).

“And it was said, ‘WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE’; [32] but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for *the* cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Deuteronomy 24:1,3 is quoted, but Jesus says that by the putting away of a mate causes the mate to sin. The putting away can be wrong, and so can the result done to the one put away! To get rid of the sin of divorce have a soft heart (not like Mt. 19:8) that is committed to one’s mate.

4. **Swearing (oaths), and the lack of character behind it** (Mt. 5:33-37).

“Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FALSE VOWS, BUT SHALL FULFILL YOUR VOWS TO THE LORD.’ [34] “But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, [35] or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING. [36] “Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. [37] “But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ *or* ‘No, no’; and anything beyond these is of evil.

Leviticus 19: 12 is quoted, but Jesus says that we are to be of such a good character that our word (whether ‘yes’; or ‘no’) means something. To get rid of the sin of swearing, live, up to what you say you will do.

5. **Retaliation, and the weakness behind it** (Mt. 5:38-42).

“You have heard that it was said, ‘AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.’ [39] “But I say to you, do not resist him who is evil; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. [40] “And if anyone wants to sue you, and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. [41] “And whoever shall force you to go one mile, go with him two. [42] “Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

Leviticus 24:19-22 is quoted but Jesus does not want us to personally take revenge when we are hurt. Rather, Jesus wants us to be willing to suffer loss than to cause another to suffer. Instead of hurting the sinner, try to help the sinner. To get rid of the sin of retaliation we must learn to show faith, love, and patience.

6. **Love of enemies, and the act of the will behind it** (Mt. 5:43-48).

“You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, and hate your enemy.’ [44] “But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you [45] in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous. [46] “For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax-gatherers do the same? [47] “And if you greet your brothers only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? [48] “Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Nowhere did the Law say to hate one's enemies. But to love one who is an enemy means more than a feeling; it must be an act of the will. Agape love is a decision to do right, even when wronged. God is the supreme example of this kind of love (5:45; Rom. 5:10). To get rid of one's sin toward enemies, we must act like God, be mature (perfect) like Him.

V. **CONCLUSION.**

- A. Jesus said many things in this great sermon.
- B. In this lesson we have covered:
  - 1. What true righteousness is (Mt. 5:1-16).
  - 2. How true righteousness comes (Mt. 5:17-20).
  - 3. Righteousness in our daily lives (Mt. 5:21-48).
- C. Next week, Matthew, Chapter 06:  
True Worship:
  - 1. True Worship in Our Giving (Mt. 6:1-4).
  - 2. True Worship in Our Praying (Mt. 6:5-15).
  - 3. True Worship in Our Fasting (Mt. 6:16-18).
  - 4. True Worship in Our Use of Wealth (Mt. 6:19-34).