

142 More Is Expected of A Christian.

mt. 5:20 - the Righteousness that exceeds.

... Ye have heard... but I say...

v. 47. what do Ye more than others?

I. More than the Righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees.

A. Outward

B. Formal

C. Ceremonial

D. Superficial

E. Trivial, omitting the "weightier matters."

II. More than the letter of the Law of Moses.

A. the law about murder

1. Not just the sacredness of human life

2. But the sacredness of human personality, feelings, relationships.

3. Murder by anger, contempt, insult.

B. the law about Adultery

1. the sacredness of marriage

2. Impure heart & thought demanded by the ethics of Jesus.

C. the law concerning Truth. (33-37)

1. Oaths are unnecessary in the Kingdom of God.

2. An oath is always a revelation or recognition of a possibility of deceit.

III. More than the motive of Personal Rights or of customary, necessary & deserved generosity!

A. Kingdom ethics demand

1. Turning the other cheek
2. Giving away your coat
3. Going the second mile
4. Giving to every borrower.
5. Loving your enemies.

B. Understanding of such ethical standards

1. "Interior" ethics?
2. "Impractical" ethics?
3. Literal and relevant?

C. It is impossible for the world to practice such a severe code of ethics until it accept Jesus as more than a mere Teacher and Lawgiver — but as a Redeemer.