

Mat. 5:20 - Righteousness

“Right standing with God”

- Acceptability based on forgiveness of sins thru Christ's blood – Rom. 5:19.
- Acceptability based on what we continue to do to maintain salvation.

There is a standard of living right that we must maintain if we want to go to heaven.

Mat. 5:21-26 - Anger

Eph. 4:26-27

- Anger is not necessarily sinful.
- In OT 23 times – “anger of the Lord”
- Mark 3:5 – Jesus was angry.
- Rom. 2:8 – Disobedient await indignation and wrath of God.
- There are things that ought to anger us.

Mat. 5:21-26 - Anger

But . . . Anger is a dangerous emotion.

- Both without and with just cause.
- Gal. 5:20; 2 Cor. 12:20 – “Outbursts of wrath” – work of the flesh that will cause one to not inherit kingdom of God.
- Much murder has anger at its root – Gen. 4:5.
- Can slay with tongue as well as with gun.

Mat. 5:21-26 - Anger

What to do when angry?

- Rom. 12:14, 17-18, 21 – The standard of righteousness to which we have been called.
- Anything less, we are in danger of judgment – possibly in courts of men, definitely in court of God.

Mat. 5:21-26 - Anger

The Two Courts:

- Mat. 5:25-26 – “Agree with your adversary quickly,” and thus avoid the courts of men. Never let anger cause you to miss an opportunity for reconciliation.
- Mat. 5:23-24 – “First be reconciled to your brother.” To let anger rule your response to a brother with something against you is to fall short of God’s standard of righteousness.