Calvary Chapel Kauai

"Corrections and Clarifications – Part I"

Matthew 5:17-30

Introduction

I The Unchanging Nature of God's Word

A. Do not think that I have come to abolish:
1. The Law - Rom 3:19-20; 7:7; Gal 3:19-25
2. The Prophets

B. I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them
1. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear:
a. Not the smallest letter
b. Not the least stroke of a pen
1. Will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished - Jn 10:35

C. Anyone who:
1. Breaks one of the least of these commandments
2. Teaches other to do the same - 1 Cor 3:10-15
a. Will be called least in the kingdom of God

D. Whoever practices and teaches these commands:
1. Will be called great in the kingdom of heaven - Mt 28:20

E. Unless your righteousness surpasses that of:
1. The Pharisees
2. The teachers of the law - Ezra 4:8; 7:10, 12
a. You will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven

II The Corrected Application of God's Word

A. You have heard it said to the people long ago:
1. Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment - Ex 20:13; Dt 5:17
2. But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment - Eph 4:26-27

B. Again, anyone who says to his brother: - James 3:9
1. "Raca," is answerable to the Sanhedrin - Eph 4:29
2. "You fool!" will be in danger of the fire of hell
a. The appeal for corrective action:
1. If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you:
a. Leave your gift there in front of the altar
b. First, go and be reconciled to your brother
c. Then come and offer your gift
2. Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court - 1 Cor 6:1-6
b. The rationale: - Mt 5:23-24; 18:15-17
1. Reconciliation is preferable to imprisonment

C. You have heard that it was said:
1. Do not commit adultery - Ex 20:14, 20
2. But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart
a. The appeal for corrective action:
1. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out
2. If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off
b. The rationale:
1. Partial/temporal loss is preferable to total/eternal loss

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What "loopholes" have you created to skirt the "rules" of life?
2. What was at stake for the religious leaders to let go of their errant view of the Law/Prophets? What's at stake for you?
3. How does Jesus answer the false claims that He came to abolish the Law and the Prophets? What does His answer reveal about the inspiration, authority and enduring nature of the Bible?
4. How does Jesus' interpretation of the law regarding murder, anger and adultery differ from the Pharisees and teachers?
5. What steps, if any, does this study require of you?
a. Confessing and repenting of your sin to God
b. Reconciling with others
c. Dealing aggressively and decisively with your sin