

Sermon on the Mount

Reconciliation and Restitution – Mathew 5:21-26

This next section shows us how important our relationships with one another are to God. He wants us to curb our anger, seek peace and reconciliation with our brothers, even before seeking communion with Him. He also admonishes to settle with our adversaries quickly before we get into worse trouble.

v.21, 22 – Thou shalt not kill, but Jesus says anger, especially that which is not justified, is just as bad and one is in danger of judgment. Anger in the heart can lead to murder.

James 1:19 – wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Ephesians 4:26 Don't let sun go down on wrath

v.22 – Tongue murder – Calling brother Raca (scornfully) or Fool (spitefully) leads to judgments. The tongue is dangerous. Psalm 57:4; 64:3 ; James 3:1-12

v.23,24 – When you bring your gift to the altar, or attempt to have communion with God, in worship or prayer, if there is a problem with your brother, some offense, leave your gift and reconcile to your brother. Things that we hold in our hearts towards one another hinder our free communion with the Lord. Don't ignore. Don't brush it off. Don't justify. Go and reconcile with your brother then come back and offer unto the Lord.

Ps 34:14; Rom 12:18; Hebrew 12:4, Mark 11:25; Ephesians 4:31, 32 We must run after peace.

v.25,26 – If we are in a legal dispute with our adversary, quickly try to resolve. Don't draw it out. Settle, make restitution, make some arrangement, lest it become worse and you end up paying more, losing more or even going to prison.

Proverbs 6:1-5

All of this is to show that human relationships and interactions are important to God. Those of us who are His disciples must always seek peace with all men, to the glory and honor of God