

Sermon Notes

The Sermon on the Mount: Part 3

April 20th – 21st, 2024

- **The Sermon on the Mount, Recap:**
 - The Beatitudes. The counter-cultural values of God's Kingdom.
 - Salt and Light. Preserve the truths of God by receiving and reflecting God's Kingdom.
- **Part 3: Fulfillment of Don't Murder, Eye for Eye, Love for who??**
 - Are you looking to the Scripture for rules or for wisdom and the ways of God?
 - **Matt 5:20.** How can we do better than the Pharisees did?
 - The Pharisees let religion deteriorate into rules. **Matt 15:7-9**
 - Instead, let's catch the heart of God and preserve that!
- **Matthew 5:21-26.** Do not murder, from the 10 Commandments.
 - The heart of it? Don't have a murderous heart!
 - Let's look at **James 1:19-20, Ephesians 4:26-27**, and compare to **Matt 5:7, 9**.
 - What is God looking for? For us to develop a heart of mercy and peace. Even in this world.
 - I love **Matt 5:23-24!** Counter cultural "mirror" vs "window." Don't just blame others!!
 - Maybe its actually your fault! Maybe you are the problem! (foreshadow of speck/plank)
 - Don't stay stuck in **Titus 3:3**. Let's get to **Titus 3:4-6!**
 - If you have an unhealthy disdain for other people, you are stuck in Titus 3:3.
 - Cain and Abel, **Genesis 4:3-8**. The turning point could have been v7.
 - Maybe today is your v7. Where you wake up from worldly hate learn to love.
- Instead of hate, **Matthew 5:38-42.**
 - Eye for eye is "don't escalate." Turn the other cheek/go the extra mile is "deescalate."
 - Be the bigger person. Be the adult in the room. Not just one of the foolish combatants.
 - This mean that it doesn't matter how bad they are, you do the right thing. No excuses.
- Jesus doesn't stop there, **Matthew 5:43-48.**
 - What reward will you get if you are stuck in Titus 3:3?
 - Jesus expects more from his people. Love, pray for, greet your enemies!!
 - This is the difference between Christians and everyone else.
 - Who are your enemies? Political? Cultural? Who? How do you treat them?
 - Rise above. Represent Jesus well. Rest in the Lord.
 - We are going to close with **Matthew 7:24-27.**
 - It doesn't matter if you hear this, it matters if you do it.
 - Western bias toward individual application...vs Eastern idea of group application.
 - Let me tell you, if we, as the "Church" fail at this, our house will fall.
 - I'm haunted by **Romans 2:23-24**. Let's not do that.
 - Pray: to love like Jesus loves. To see others through His eyes. To be washed and renewed in the Holy Spirit. To shine the light, not bring more darkness.
- For prayer email prayer@goodhope.ag Have a blessed day!