

/We will now begin lecture four./We will begin from Matthew 5:17.

/Read 5:17/Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

/Jesus came to fulfill the Law./The Law and the Prophets focused on the Christ./According to the Law cattle, lamb, and pigeon were offered up as sacrifices for sin.

/This was pointing to Christ who would come to die for the sins of the world and spill His blood./Hebrews 10:1/Colossians 2:16/Therefore, Christ appeared as a shadow in the Old Testament.

/In the New Testament, this shadow became reality through the incarnation of Jesus./Therefore, the Law of the Old Testament was fulfilled through Christ./Jesus said that He came to fulfill the Law.

/First, Jesus came in the flesh./Second, Jesus paid the price for sin through His blood./Third, Jesus perfectly obeyed God's will and fulfilled the righteousness of God.

/Verse 18./For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

/The ceremonial laws and the mystery of the Old Testament were abolished through Jesus./Colossians 2:14/The rituals and sacrificial system of the Old Testament are abolished./Still, the truth that they taught is kept even in today's New Testament era.

/Today, do not take a calf or lamb to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices./We worship God through faith in the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross./For example, in Leviticus chapter 11, there are prohibitions on the types of food people could eat.

/It says there that only animals with split hooves could be eaten./Today, we could eat pork./Pigs do not chew the cud./Yet, today, doubts and consciences have been covered by Jesus./Therefore, pork can be eaten.

/However, we must hold on to the truth./The split hooves point to the fact that people should live a life that is set apart./To chew cud means to meditate on God's Word./People could not eat fish without scales./Yet, today we can.

/We must follow the truth found in the Scriptures./The scales symbolize armor of the body./Ephesians 6:12-13/Therefore, in the current New Testament period we must seek the truth./We must obey the Word.

/Then what is meant by legalism?/"Legalism" is the idea that we must keep the Law in order to be saved./For example, the belief that we must be circumcised in order to be saved is legalism./However, we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ.

/Also, the Law teaches that those who believe in Jesus should obey God's Word./If those who have been saved by faith do whatever they please, it is sin./It is sin to not live by God's Word.

/God does not like this./It is dead faith./James 2:26/It is a blessing to obey God's word./Deuteronomy 28:1/Matthew 7:24-26/How can we be saved?/It is not through works.

/We are saved only through faith in Jesus./Those who have been saved are blessed when they obey God's Word.

/Verse 19./Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

/Even in God's kingdom there are those who are great and those who are the least./Those who lived by God's Word become "great."/Two examples are Paul and Peter,/These types of people are called great in God's kingdom.

/However, if you disobey the Word of God after believing in Jesus, then you will become the least./Even if you believe in Jesus, if you live a life of disobedience you will be called the least in heaven./There are different types of crowns./First is the crown of glory/1 Peter 5:4

/Second is the crown of honor./1 Thessalonians 2:19/Third is the crown of righteousness./2 Timothy 4:8/Fourth is the crown of gold./Revelation 14:14/Fifth is the crown of life./Revelation 2:10

/Sixth is the crown of joy./Philippians 4:1/Seventh is the imperishable crown./1 Corinthians 9:25/Our spirits must grow./1 Corinthians 3:1/Hebrews 5:13-14/Ephesians 4:15/We must become like Jesus.

/Our character must grow./We must develop the character of Jesus./Then we must obey the Word./Then when we go to heaven we will become great./How are we saved?/Through faith in Jesus.

/How were people saved during the Old Testament period?/It was not by keeping the Law./How were people saved in Old Testament times?/It was through faith in the coming Christ.

/How are people saved in the New Testament period?/It is by believing in Christ who has already come./Then how are we saved?/It is through faith in Jesus./We who have believed should live by God's Word.

/Verse 20./"For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

/We must carefully remember this verse./What is the righteousness of the Pharisees and scribes?/It is through their works by which they try to be saved./They are trying to become righteous through human works./What is the righteousness of Christians?

/It is the righteousness of Christ./We have come to receive the righteousness of God./By faith we accept the righteousness of Christ that has been accomplished on the cross./We are saved through faith in Christ.

/We cannot be saved by our works./We are saved through faith in Jesus./Romans 9:30-33/Romans 10:3/This what it means to have righteousness that surpasses that of the Pharisees and scribes./By faith in Christ we come to possess His righteousness.

/That is how we enter heaven./Now we will discuss the five prohibitions./First, prohibition against murder.

/Verses 21-22./You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

/Here, it says, "You have heard it said."/The Pharisees taught the Law in a wrong way./They misinterpreted the Old Testament./That is why Jesus reinterpreted the Old Testament for them.

/Killing someone physically is not the only type of murder there is./Jesus is speaking about the sin of murder./Calling someone "raca" is the sin of murder./This is a swear word in Hebrew./It means "idiot or moron."

/Being angry at a brother is susceptible to punishment./Being angry can also be sin./If you call someone stupid, that is considered sin of murder./If you call someone stupid you are calling him a person who does not know God./It means that the person is rebelling against God.

/This is a greater curse than "raca."/Calling someone these words is like the sin of murder./1 John 3:15 says that hating our brother is sin./We must repent and keep from committing such sins.

/It says that they will be "subject to judgment."/This refers to the judgment of the Sanhedrin./The Sanhedrin is made up of six representatives from each of the twelve tribes of Israel./There is a total of seventy members./It is a religious congregation.

/If we curse then the sin is great enough to receive punishment./Also, we will then be in danger of the fire of hell./This refers to the loss of peace./We will undergo pain and suffering as is found in hell.

/We must love our brothers with sincere hearts./This is the way of life./It is walking in the midst of the light./Whoever hates his brother enters darkness and cuts off the work of life.

/Verses 23-24./ “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

/We must bring our offerings to God after being reconciled to our brother./Before offering God anything we must be reconciled to our brother./Then what shall we do if the person we want to make peace with refuses?

/We must continue to love that person from our hearts./We should pray to God./Then we will receive peace and reconciliation in our hearts./Even though others may refuse our peacemaking attempts, we must seek first peace in our hearts.

/Verse 25./“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.

/Here we have someone taking another you to court./Romans 2:15/What does “while you are still together on the way” mean?/It means they have not sinned but they are “on their way to sin”.

/When you go to sin, your conscience becomes stricken./We must listen carefully to our conscience./Yet, if we ignore our conscience and sin anyway, then we will be handed over to the judge./The judge is the keeper of the law./John 12:48/Psalm 51:4

/It says that the judge will send you to the officer./The officer symbolizes the power of sin./Psalm 32:3-4/It says that you will be put in prison./Here, “prison” symbolizes spiritual darkness./Isaiah 42:22/Revelation 16:8

/Therefore, when our conscience tells us to repent we must listen./If we sin then we become slaves of sin./When we become slaves of sin then we meet spiritual darkness./We lose spiritual freedom.

/Verse 26./Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

/It says that you will have to pay the last penny./A penny here in Greek is called “kodrantes.”/Kodrantes./This is the name of the Roman coin./It has the lowest value in currency./What is the coin with the lowest value in America?/It is one cent.

/You will have to pay up the last cent./You have to pay your debt./This means we must repent of all our sins./We must repent of even the smallest sins.

/When we sin we must repent completely, and make the decision that we would never sin again./For example, let’s say someone stole another’s cow./Then that person confesses to God, “I’ve done wrong,”/but eats the other person’s cow.

/Then he just says, “I’m sorry” before God./That is not repentance./True repentance requires payment of restitution./We must truly repent,/and pay back restitution to the person we have wronged.

/When David sinned he repented completely./Psalm 51/We have been entrusted with much./Matthew 18:24/Therefore, we must repent completely./Psalm 32:3-4

/Verses 27-28 is about adultery.

/Verses 27-28./“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

/Jesus said that even if you look at a woman lustfully, you have committed adultery in your heart./This is because that heart has already left God and has committed adultery./Forsaking God is committing spiritual adultery.

/If we leave God, much temptation comes to our hearts./Matthew 12:39/We must therefore always walk with God.

/We must not lose our love for God but continue to walk with him./We must invite him into our hearts./We must follow Jesus.

/Verses 29-30./If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

/Jesus said to pluck out your eye or cut off your hand if they cause you to sin./Then must we cut off our hand every time it causes us to sin?/In that case no one will have any eyes or hands left!

/There is a very important truth to be learned here./If we have something as essential as an eye,/or as important as a hand,/and it leads us to sin, we must still cut it off./No matter how important our business or work may be,/if it causes us to sin we must let it go.

/No matter how close a friend may be, if that friend leads us to sin then we must not associate with him or her./No matter how important a person may be, if that person is the source of sin we must not associate with them.

/Second is law against divorce.

/Verses 31-32./“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

/In Deuteronomy 24:1,/it says that if there is something displeasing with a wife then a divorce certificate can be written and one can get a divorce./However, the Pharisees thought that it was

acceptable to write a divorce certificate even without a legitimate reason for divorce./The Pharisees used God's Word to justify their adulterous desires.

/In reality, Moses prohibited divorce./Yet, the Pharisees used the Word for evil./Then what are the legitimate grounds for divorce?/It is when one partner in marriage, whether it is the husband or the wife, dies./Romans 7:2

/We may remarry when our spouse passes away./Second is when one must be banished for issues regarding faith./1 Corinthians 7:15/If our spouse says to us, "I do not want to live with you any longer because you believe in Jesus," then we can get a divorce.

/Third is a reason related to the captivity of the Jews in Babylon./Jeremiah 29:4-6/God told the Jews to marry and settle down in Babylon.

/Likewise, there are situations when couples are separated from each other for long periods of time and the law or the church cannot bring them back together./There are situations when couples must be separate for long periods of time./Matthew 19:18-19/1 Corinthians 7:15/Matthew 19:6

/Thus, the third reason is applied when the power of the law or the church cannot bring a couple together./Let us look now at the fourth reason for divorce./It is when one partner commits adultery.

/If one partner commits adultery then the other partner may file for divorce./It is wrong to divorce anyone for any other reason than for sexual immorality./We must not divorce because of differences in personalities.

/Also, it is not good to divorce right away for reasons of adultery./If our partners confess his or her wrongdoings and plead for forgiveness, then we should forgive and take them back.

/Fourth is do not swear.

/Verses 33-36./"Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.' But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black.

/Jesus said not to take oaths./What God has established man cannot undo./It is of no use to make oaths.

/It is important for believers to be faithful to the work that God has assigned them./We cannot change God's will through our oaths./Therefore, there is no need to take oaths.

/Verse 37./All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

/What is right is right and we must do right./What is wrong is wrong and we must not do wrong./That is why we must not make an oath because we cannot change a wrong oath.

/We must ponder over every situation and determine what is right or wrong and do what is right.

/Fifth is do not take revenge on your enemies.

/Verse 38./“You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’

/It says here to repay eye for eye and tooth for tooth./The Pharisees interpreted the Scripture in a wrong way./Exodus 21:24./Deuteronomy 19:18/This law was written by the chief judge.

/It calls for justice to be executed by the judge./The Old Testament also teaches people to love their enemies./Leviticus 19:18/We must not take personal revenge on our enemies./The judge must make just decisions.

/We must not get personal revenge on our enemies no matter what the circumstance./There is a person who received ten-thousand talents of silver from God./Matthew 18:24-27/We must be willing forgive our brothers of any sin.

/Verse 39./But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

/When someone strikes us on our right cheek we must turn the left as well./This is when we are personally violated./Even if we are personally offended, we must always have the mind of God.

/We must always seek peace in God./We must not compromise our faith./We must conquer offenses through faith.

/Then in his time God will lift us up./Jesus lived up to this and did not say anything when He was slapped in the face.

/Verse 40./And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well.

/Jesus said that if anyone takes our shirt we should hand over our coat as well./This is the problem with materialism./We need both shirts and coats./Still, we must give up even our possessions for God.

/We must not lose our faith./We must not give up the light of life./We must seek peace in the Lord.

/In Genesis chapter 26, Isaac gave up his well./We must not bite and devour one another./Galatians 5:15

/Verse 41./If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

/If someone asks us to go with him five miles we should go with him ten miles./This verse deals with our rights./We are not to let even our personal rights get in the way of our faith in God.

/Even if we lose physical possessions we must not lose our eternal possessions./If we keep our faith and the truth then God will protect us./God will lift us up./He will provide what to eat and what to wear.

/Verse 42./Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

/We must give to those who ask us./The one who gives is more blessed than the one who receives./Acts 20:35

/Even though we may sacrifice our rights and our possessions we must not lose our spiritual inheritance./If we keep our faith God will provide for us .

/Verses 43-44./“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

/The Pharisees missed the spirit of the law./They taught people to hate their enemies./The Pharisees did not teach the law correctly./Leviticus 19:18 says not to take revenge on our enemies./It also says to love our neighbors.

/Jesus taught the true meaning of the Law./Romans 12:19/says to leave vengeance up to God./We must love our enemies./When Jesus was on the cross, He prayed that God would forgive those who were crucifying Him.

/Also, while Stephen was being stoned to death, he prayed that God would forgive his persecutors./Joseph forgave his brothers even though they sold him into slavery.

/If we do not forgive others then we are committing the same sin as them./We must believe in the sovereignty of God./We must not look to the past but to the future.

/If we forgive others before God then God will forgive us./We will live in freedom./Jesus taught us to pray in The Lord’s Prayer to pray, “forgive our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us.”

/Verse 45./that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

/Our God shines the sun upon both the righteous and the wicked./This is the mercy of God./As God’s children, we should also learn to love all people./We must love the sinner but not the sin.

/As we love people we must not love the sin./Also, when we hate the sin we must not hate the sinner./Therefore, we must love people and hate sin.



/God does not play favorites and he shines the light of the sun on all people./This is great love and compassion of God./We too must imitate God.

/Verses 46-47./If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

/It is not right to love only those who love us./Even the pagans love one another./We must love not only our brothers but our enemies as well./This is the life lived in step with the Holy Spirit.

/This is life that follows the Holy Spirit./The realm of love is the realm of the Spirit./It is the realm of light./It is the realm of truth./It is the realm of God.

/Verse 48./Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

/God our Father is perfect./We must learn to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect./We are not perfect people,/but God is perfect in all his ways.

/Therefore, we must grow in God's likeness./When we become like God then we become holy./Then we will be great in the kingdom of God./We will receive praise, glory, and honor before God.

/This concludes the fourth lecture on the gospel of Matthew./Thank you.