**May 19, 2019 “You Fool”, Pt 2 Matthew 5:21-26**

Let’s re-visit what have learned so far. Jesus is sitting on the side of a hill and then delivers this sermon to His disciples and to all those who were in hearing distance of His voice. The last two verses in chapter 7 really tell us how the people received what Jesus was saying to them. They responded in two ways.

* First, they were amazed at His teaching
* Second, it was because He did not teach as the scribes but rather as One who had authority… in other words… someone who knew what God had said.

So here we are in verse 21, listening again to One who is an authority on what God has said and One who is able to correctly interpret what God has said in clear and decisive teaching. Now there are 6 different subjects or topics Jesus addressed in verse 21-48 and we are going to look at the first today.

1. Matthew 5:21
   1. You have heard what the ancients have said
      1. This was the teaching of the Scribes who always taught what the Rabbis of old taught
         1. “You shall not murder”
            1. This is the sixth commandment that Moses brought down from the mountain called Mt. Sinai
   2. Why would this be important to us today?
      1. In the U.S. the last statistics I have read stated that 27,384 people were murdered in the U.S. in 2017
      2. That does not include the people who died from suicide
      3. Nor does include abortion victims
      4. Including all those… the count is closer to 1 million people who have been murdered in the U.S in the past year
   3. Well I would never murder anyone
      1. That is what the Scribes and Pharisees also said
      2. This was a way they could add to their righteousness
2. Whoever murders shall be liable in court
   1. Scribes and Pharisees taught this
      1. If you murder someone… you will go to jail and be in big trouble
      2. We saw that this week with the conviction of the man who killed the family of Jayme Claus
   2. One thing that you will note about this view
      1. God does not enter into the picture
         1. Genesis 9:5-6
            1. Here is the reason why murder is wrong
            2. Man is created in the image of God
         2. What was the first sin of mankind recorded after the expulsion from Eden
            1. Cain kills Abel
            2. Note the correlation to Matthew 5:22… anger

Genesis 4:1-5

Cain became angry

Matthew 15:17-20

1. Key to understanding all 6 topics
   1. Matthew 5:20… unless your righteousness exceeds
      1. This view will affect all of us in three ways
         1. View of ourselves
         2. View of God
         3. View of others
   2. Matthew 5:22… let Me tell you what God means
      1. I Samuel 16:7… God looks at the heart
   3. This is really important for us to understand
      1. What is going on inside of you is what God is interested in dealing with
         1. So, who in God’s eyes are the murderers?
            1. Matthew 5:22… anyone who is angry with his brother
            2. Anger and hatred in the heart leads to murder
            3. Murder therefore is heart condition

If we get angry with people

We are all murders in our hearts!!!!!!!

* + 1. Two illustrations
       1. Raca… you good for nothing
          1. Worthless
       2. You fool
          1. Mros… Greek
          2. Get the word “moron”
  1. How then do we deal with the Scripture (Ephesians 4:26)
     1. Are there things that Christians should be angry over?
        1. Yes…
        2. So-called “Equality Act”
        3. Abortion
        4. International sex education being
     2. That is righteous indignation
  2. What Jesus is teaching is not about righteous indignation
     1. Rather He is teaching against selfishness and self-righteousness

1. Matthew 5:23-24
   1. Jesus is dealing with worship
      1. Offering
         1. II Samuel 24:24… that which costs me nothing
         2. Our offerings reflect the condition of our heart of worship
         3. I Chronicles 22:14
         4. I Chronicles 29:3-9
      2. Someone is angry with you
         1. Why not if you are angry with someone else?
         2. Romans 12:17-21
         3. What if they won’t be reconciled to you?
            1. You have done your part
            2. Leave the rest in the hands of God
2. Matthew 5:25-26
   1. Dealing with your adversary
      1. Romans 8:5-8
      2. Those who live for the pleasures of the flesh
         1. An opponent of God
         2. Illustration is given of the man who owes money to a debtor
            1. How long would a person have to sit in jail before they could pay back all they owed?
            2. How would or could they ever earn the money to pay the one they owed?

So, then who is a murderer? We all are… if we have ever been angry with someone. God views our anger the same as murder.

How then can I have a relationship with God? The answer is that you and I cannot have a relationship with God until we come to the foot of Cross. That is where the price of our redemption was paid.

At Calvary…