

The Deadly Sin of Anger (Pt. 2)

Matthew 5:21-26

- I. The Law Against Murder Quoted (21a)
 - A. Murder (Num. 35:30)
 - B. Manslaughter caused by recklessness or gross negligence (Ex. 21:29)

God allowed taking human life in three cases...

1. Self-defense or defense of another innocent human life (Ex. 22:2; Lk. 22:36, 38)
2. Capital punishment (Num. 35:30; cf. Gen. 9:6; Rom. 13:4)
3. Just war (Rom. 13:4)

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- I. The Law Against Murder Quoted (21a)
 - A. Murder (Num. 35:30)
 - B. Manslaughter caused by recklessness or gross negligence (Ex. 21:29)
- II. The Law against Murder Misinterpreted (21b)
 - A. They made it solely a physical act.
 - B. They made it entirely a negative command.
 - C. They made it primarily a social crime.

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III. The Law against Murder Explained (22)

- A. "Everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court" (22a).
- B. "And whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the Supreme Court" (22b).
- C. "And whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell" (22c).

Implications...

1. If you're not a believer in Jesus, this passage forces you to come to grips with your need of the gospel!
2. If you're already a believer, Jesus intends for you to apply His teaching in at least four ways...
 - a. Don't justify your sinful anger but accept full responsibility.
 - b. Don't tolerate your sinful anger but put it to death.
 - c. Don't ignore your sinful anger but be quick to seek forgiveness from God and reconciliation with the one you sinned against.
 - d. Don't be ungrateful but give praise & thanks to God that in Christ He has forgiven you.