



“Real Righteousness Required”
Matthew 5:17-20
01-22-2012

→ **Warm up...**

1. Do you have something you would like to take to the Antique Road Show? Why, and what’s the story behind it?
2. Who tried to steady the Ark while it was being carried on a cart? What was the result and why?

→ **Introduction...** Every good sermon should be summed up in one phrase, one sentence, one succinct thought. This is where we arrive in the Sermon on the Mount. At this point we move from interpretation to application.

→ **Explore it...** Read Matt 5:17-20

1. Whenever the Jewish people used the term Law – they had 3 inseparable things in mind. Describe them.
 - a. Moral Law
 - i. Why did God give the Moral Law?
 - b. Judicial Law
 - c. Ceremonial Law
2. Describe the Pharisees and scribes’ religious commitment. See Matt 23 to find examples.
3. How does the same attitude of the Pharisees and scribes show up in modern religion or your life?
4. What was Jesus referring to when He spoke of the Prophets and what was their purpose?
5. What are two important principles about the Law and the Prophets Jesus established in Matt 5:17-19?
6. Why can’t Christianity exist without the Old Testament and what should we do with the O.T. as a result?
7. Jesus fulfilled the prophecies for the Messiah. Which prophecy stands out to you and why?
8. Why can’t we fulfill the Law by ourselves?
 - a. James 2:10

- b. Rom 3:9-12
 - c. Romans 3:19-24
 - d. Romans 7:7-14
9. Why did God require Jesus to obey all of the Law (Gal 4:4)?
- a. Rom 5:18-21
 - b. 2 Cor 5:21
 - c. Gal 3:21-22
10. Since Jesus fulfilled the Law and the Prophets, what Laws do we need to obey?
11. What does it mean to live righteously by faith? See Rom 8:1-11.

➔ **Apply it...** As you think back on this lesson – answer these questions personally with I, me, and my ...

1. How well versed are you in the Old Testament? Have you read the entire Old Testament? Do you understand it enough to know how it should affect you as a Christian?
2. What is your attitude toward the Law? Is it like the Pharisees and scribes – you pay more attention to obeying all the rules than the one who gave them? Or do you ignore or relax the teachings from the Old Testament because Jesus fulfilled the Law and you feel it doesn't apply to you?
3. Go back to the warm-up question about the Ark. What application can you draw from this incident that should apply to our lives?
4. Ways to know if your righteousness isn't real: you don't get anything out of worship; you are quick to judge others; you take a long time or don't forgive others; you condemn yourself when you blow it; you are always doubting your salvation; your prayer life is all form and no substance; you don't have joy, laughter, or happiness in your life; you have no sacrifice in your life, instead you hoard your money, time, and self.

➔ **Pray it...** Thank you, Jesus, for doing what I could not do. You lived a holy life and had no sin so that you could take all of my sins and the sin of the whole world on yourself. Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to live in me when I turned from my sin in repentance and faith in your shed blood on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. Thank you for giving me your righteousness since there was nothing I could do to attain righteousness on my own. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for giving me the power to live a holy life. Help me to depend on that power instead of my own resources so that I can grow in holiness and righteousness.