

# How Good is 'Good Enough'?

Matthew 5:17-20

<sup>17</sup> "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. <sup>18</sup> For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

## Wrong Thinking about the Law

"Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the Law."

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"Law-keeping can \_\_\_\_\_ me."

Up to this point in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, there is an apparent *glaring omission*: Jesus had yet to mention \_\_\_\_\_ as the means to eternal life in the Kingdom. Instead, he's preached humble self-awareness, mournful repentance, changed desires, and an undivided heart.

What He's unveiling is \_\_\_\_\_!

But God's grace never \_\_\_\_\_ God's Law. Instead, when God's grace is given and received, we are \_\_\_\_\_ than ever before – and actually \_\_\_\_\_ – to keep God's Law.

It's not \_\_\_\_\_ to us anymore – like a rung we are trying to reach for. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to us, springing from the \_\_\_\_\_.

## A Right Understanding of the Law

Just as Jesus fulfilled, fulfills, and will fulfill the \_\_\_\_\_, he does the same regarding the Law.

In his \_\_\_\_\_ ...

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And the Law itself is \_\_\_\_\_.

"The Law" in reference here is God's \_\_\_\_\_. While we are no longer bound to the \_\_\_\_\_ Law of the Old Testament (eg Gal. 3:23-25, Col. 2:16-17, Rom. 14:5), nor the \_\_\_\_\_ Law (eg Exodus 21), God's \_\_\_\_\_ Law will forever apply.

This Law is the \_\_\_\_\_ of righteousness in God's Kingdom and is the \_\_\_\_\_ for the believer's rewards in Christ. (See Romans 3)

## 'Good enough' – A Righteousness that "Exceeds that of the Pharisees"

A righteousness that is different in \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_ than that of the Pharisees.

They focused on \_\_\_\_\_. The Lord is concerned with \_\_\_\_\_.

They missed the \_\_\_\_\_ and replaced them with superfluous, manmade \_\_\_\_\_.

They tried to \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness without \_\_\_\_\_ righteous.

A righteousness that springs from the \_\_\_\_\_!

Not just \_\_\_\_\_ (though that is where it begins) ...

But \_\_\_\_\_, genuine righteousness lived out as an expression of our new lives in Christ

My response to God's Word today:

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