

**Simply let your 'yes' be yes, and your 'no' no
Matthew 5:33-37**

Jesus' main point of his Sermon On The Mount:

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:20

The problem it is humanly impossible to keep the Law to be righteousness.

“For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man in order that the righteousness requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.” **Romans 8:3, 4**

You have heard it said....But I say to you (vs. 21, 27, 31, 33, 38, 43)

<u>Real righteousness</u>	<u>surpasses</u>	<u>Religious righteousness</u>
restrains anger		reacts to murder
prevents lust		punishes adulterers
shrinks selfishness		fosters divorce

Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.'

Oaths are _____ V. 33

- The patriarch Joseph made an oath. Genesis 50:25
- The Israelites were permitted to swear by the name of the LORD.
This is what the LORD commands: When a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath to obligate himself by pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said. Numbers 30:2
Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve Him, and shalt swear by His name. Deuteronomy 6:13
Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:12
- *May God deal with me, be it ever so severely*” (Ruth 1:17; 1 Samuel 3:17; 14:44; 20:13; 25:22; 2 Samuel 3:9, 35; 19:3)
- Jesus allowed Himself to be put under oath by the High Priest. Matthew 26:63, 64
- The Apostle Paul put himself under an oath. Galatians 1:20; II Corinthians 1:23

There are two kinds of oaths:

1. To _____.
2. To _____.

There are two purposes for oaths:

1. To _____ the commitment to _____.
2. To _____ the commitment to _____.

Oaths became sophisticated _____.

Matthew 23:16-22 *“Woe to you, blind guides! You say, ‘if anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath. You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? You also say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! Which is greater: the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?”*

But I tell you, do not swear 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. Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

_____ is built on truth.

Followers of Jesus practice His righteousness by behaving _____. V. 37
Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’;

<u>Real righteousness</u>	surpasses	<u>Religious righteousness</u>
Practices the _____		pretends with _____

Jesus calls us to be _____.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully with his neighbor, for we are all member of one body. Ephesians 4:25

Jesus calls us to keep our _____.

Be Dependable, reliable, faithful, trustworthy.

Why do we lie?

Jesus warns us to avoid the _____ of _____.

Anything beyond that comes from the evil one.

When the devil lies he speaks his native language, for is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44

Above all, my brothers, do not swear--not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned. James 5:12

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. Ephesians 4:14, 15

Next Sunday: Mary Did You Know? Hebrews 1