

Glorious Alternative 5 - A Whole New Kind of Righteousness

whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:19

Righteousness is a correct standing before God; faultless and without blame.

20 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 5:17-20

What the Lord requires, He also provides.

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

16 know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified. Galatians 2:16

21 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

25 "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut

it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. Matthew 5:21-30

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

“I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, Jeremiah 17:10

Jesus wants us to see that the root of sin is not in the behavior but in what motivates that behavior.

No sin that we have committed with our hands did we not first concede to do with our hearts.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Like hatred, lust dehumanizeses the object that it desires.

When we confess our sin and trust in Jesus, the perfect righteousness of Jesus is credited to us at no cost or effort of our own.