

Monday, 2 May 2016

Matthew 5:18

*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.*

The new Heaven, the new earth will embody the complete establishment of the Law, written on the hearts of man but until that time I have to be exceedingly careful to not ignore a single element of the Word of God. I must always realize that I cannot, must not deliberately set aside any portion of the Word of the LORD, God the Almighty. They are His guide to me for life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now.

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Tuesday, 3 May 2016

Matthew 5:19

*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.*

Called 'least' versus hearing a "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" should be a no brainer but... How the Evil One slides a sly suggestion in that a little pleasure today really won't hurt. And while I'm at it, lets pull a few friends in with me.

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Wednesday, 4 May 2016

Matthew 5:20

*For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.*

Legalistic obedience versus a Romans 12:1-2 transformation that that creates a John 14:15 obedience based on love in me.

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Thursday, 5 May 2016

Matthew 5:21

*"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'*

I am convicted by Matthew 5:19 that the penalty is severe if I teach others to excuse their disobedience. How much more severe will it be if I refuse to warn them at all?

*Ezekiel 3:18 If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.*

Do not 61,000,000 murders on the alter of Moloch, the god of choice, cry out for me to raise my voice in protest? Does not the complacency of the Church come under the judgment of Ezekiel 3:18? The screams of tortured infants should prevent any of us from sleeping at night, but we are callused and complacent.

How will I answer when called before the Great Throne to answer for my use of the talent assigned to me? There will be no "Well done" for me!

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Friday, 6 May 2016

Matthew 5:22

*But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.*

Just to be angry with another person or even to point out that he is a fool? Come on! How can our Lord equate that with murder?

I believe that the answer is simple. When I do so, I scorn the *Imago Dei* of my fellow man, I refuse to recognize that he is made in the image of God. A blatant violation of the command to love my neighbor.

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Saturday, 7 May 2016

Matthew 5:23-24

*So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.*

How can I, even why should I expect that He can be mollified by a gift that is offered by an unrepentant heart? If I have offended another bearer of His image, and I am so insensitive to His holiness that I don't realize it--I have

amends to make beginning with my brother. I must humbly approach my fellow human being and petition his forgiveness. Is this not proof that I have taken Matthew 5:3-11 to heart and seek to reorder my life according to this guide?

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*Lord's Day, 8 May 2016*

*Psalm 119:145*

*With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD! I will keep your statutes.*

The problem is to cry out to You. I in my stubbornness and self-will continue to plow ahead with no thought of turning to You until I have made a complete botch. Lord, teach me at the beginning to turn to You, even before I commit. Help me, Lord.

# *VOICES TOGETHER*

*Daily Meditations from the Scriptures*



*May 2-8, 2016*

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been a 27-year search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the Lord, God the Almighty.\*

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, [www.ailbe.org](http://www.ailbe.org); along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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Realizing the presence, promise and power  
of the Kingdom of God.

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\*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.