

## **Matthew 5:17-48 ENCORE**

- 1) Is the Old Testament Law outdated and inferior to the New Testament?
- 2) Is the Old Testament Mosaic Law good or bad?
- 3) What does Romans 7:9-10 say about the Law?
- 4) What does Galatians 2:16 say about the Law?
- 5) What was the purpose of the Law?
- 6) What is the purpose of the Law today?
- 7) How did Jesus fulfill the Law?
- 8) Why did Jesus use all of those “you have heard it said” statements?
- 9) Jesus’ statement in verse 20 would have been shocking to His listeners. The Pharisees were thought of as religious leaders and the most righteous of all people. Why did Jesus make this statement?
- 10) Why did Jesus single out the Pharisees as an example of false righteousness in verse 19-20?
- 11) Read the following verses; how does Jesus want us to move from the letter to the spirit?
  - a) Matthew 5:21-22
  - b) Matthew 5:23-24
  - c) Matthew 5:27-28
  - d) Matthew 5:31-32
  - e) Matthew 5:33-37
  - f) Matthew 5:38-39
  - g) Matthew 5:40-42
  - h) Matthew 5:43-44
  - i) Matthew 5:45-48
- 12) Read verses 23-24; which is more important in God’s eyes giving or reconciliation?
- 13) Read verse 29-30; is Jesus really asking us to mutilate our bodies?
- 14) How do Christians today need to move beyond the letter to the spirit?

## **Matthew 28:1-20 The resurrection of Jesus Christ**

**Monday Matthew 28:1-10** Just as the sun began to rise over the horizon that Sunday morning, two of the ladies who loved Jesus came to the tomb to take care of His body. They must have been distraught and filled with a sense of supreme loss. Yet upon arriving at the tomb they found it open with an angel sitting on the door! The guards were all passed out or dead, it might have been hard to tell which. Then the angel spoke; “do not be afraid”... “He is risen, as He said. Come, see” wow! Can you imagine what was going on in their hearts? What did the angel tell them to do next (v.7)?

**Tuesday Matthew 28:11-15** “Now while they were going...” the narrative continues. Some of the guard (who were now in big trouble) came into the city to make a report to the chief priests who had trusted them to guard the tomb from tampering. Notice that the priests didn’t doubt their story! They didn’t even question their story. It is like the priests totally believed the soldiers about the earthquake, the angels, the tomb being empty...everything! So what did they do? They bribed the guards to change the story! Then the priests promised to fix the guards problem (you see they would be put to death for falling asleep at their post). The guards accepted the money (and the fix of their problem) and lied about all they had witnessed. I wonder if it was worth it in view of eternity.

**Wednesday Matthew 28:16-17** The eleven disciples went into Galilee (Judas was not with them anymore and probably dead by this time) where Jesus came to them. He had told them to come to this mountain where He would give final instructions then ascend into heaven. Notice how verse 17 ends; “they worshiped Him; but some doubted.” The resurrection is just hard for the human mind to accept. Even these men who had witnessed most or all of Jesus’ earthly ministries still doubted that He could overcome His own death. Think about it, He had raised others from the dead, but His own death ... no way. That is the problem with human thinking. These men had probably written Jesus off as a liar, probably even lamented the last three years of their lives. Praise the Lord; He still gave them grace and they got to witness His ascension and the many sign gifts that God used to verify His work among them during the early church. Their doubts were all dissipated by the grace of God.

**Thursday Matthew 28:18** Before Christ issued the Great Commission, to “make disciples of all the nations,” He had to establish His divine authority to give it. Otherwise, the command would have seemed impossible to fulfill. As the disciples followed Jesus for three and a half years, they learned much about His authority. He showed them that He had authority over sickness (Matt. 4:23) and death (John 11:43-44). He gave His disciples that same power He had to overcome disease and demons (Matt. 10:1). He established that He had the authority to forgive sins (Matt. 9:6) and judge all men (John 5:25-29). And He proved that He had the authority to lay down His life and take it up again (John 10:18). Submission to that absolute authority of Christ not an opinion – it is your supreme obligation. - John MacArthur

**Friday Matthew 28:19** Baptism is the outward sign of one’s inward faith in Christ. It’s an act of obedience by which a person demonstrates the reality of his salvation. Salvation is not visibly seen but is a supernatural spiritual transaction. The fruit or result of salvation, however, should be evident. In the early church, the initial fruit of obedience was baptism, and this same fruit can be expected today. It’s the means by which an individual testifies to his or her union in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Rom6:3-4). Galatians 3:27 says, “As many of you as have been Baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” The Great Commission in Matthew 28 commands us to preach the gospel and baptize others. That means we’re to tell people that salvation is something they should not only believe, but also publicly confess, with baptism as the first step. When someone is reluctant to publicly confess Christ in that way, we have reason to question the genuineness of his faith. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 10:32). That is the public confession we all should make. – John MacArthur

**Saturday Matthew 28:20** You cannot be a disciple apart from a life of obedience and desire to follow Christ as Lord. One of the most important ways we obey is by teaching others to obey His commands. Regarding the Holy Spirit, Jesus said, “He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things I said to you” (John 14:26). Through the Word of God, the Spirit has made that teaching available to every believer. And every believer is to submit himself to it in obedience. Only a true convert will obey Christ. Only as you “present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God” (Rom. 6:13) do you exhibit obedient faith. - John MacArthur