

# MATTHEW 5.17-48

1. Based on verses 17-19, how would you summarize Jesus' attitude toward the **Scriptures**?
2. Look at verses 19-20. What were the **scribes and Pharisees** doing with the commandments that were in the Law?
3. The scribes and Pharisees taught people that **murder** would cause you to be in danger of judgment. But what other things did Jesus say would cause you to be in danger of some form of punishment (vv. 21-22)?
4. In verses 23-26, Jesus gives two illustrations of how we should resolve our **disputes** quickly. In the first illustration, where is the person when they realize that someone has a problem with them? In the second illustration, where are they going to?
5. As Jesus speaks about **sexual purity**, he uses the metaphors of cutting off our right hand and tearing out our right eye if they cause us to sin. Obviously, he is not literally saying we should dismember our body. But what is he saying? What point do you think he's trying to make?
6. Instead of getting revenge against someone who mistreats us, Jesus says to '**not resist** an evil person.' He then gives a number of illustrations to help us understand what it means to not resist an evil person. Write down the various illustrations that he used.

7. From verses 27-32, what are at least three ways that **adultery** can occur?
  
8. Jesus said to not take **oaths**, but God (Gen. 22:16; Heb. 6:13) and Paul (Rom. 1:9; 2 Cor. 1:23) often are said to have taken oaths. Jesus himself responded under oath when he was on trial (Matt. 26:63-64). So, the problem Jesus is addressing in verses 33-37 doesn't seem to be with oaths themselves. What problem(s) is Jesus really dealing with?
  
9. What reason does Jesus give as to why we should love our **enemies**?
  
10. What is one **practical application** that you need to make from this reading?  
For example, is there someone you've wronged that you need to seek peace with? Or is there some radical step you need to take to avoid sexual sin? Or is there someone you feel hatred for that you need to pray for instead?