THE F1RST SERMON



YES&N

- 1. One of the people sitting in this theater me has made me angry.
- 2. I've been so angry at someone, I've fantasized about their painful death.
- 3. It's okay to be angry, as long as you don't show it with outward actions.
- 4. God want you to get yourself right with Him, so you can then get yourself right with the people you have animosity with.
- 5. Mr. T is not going to heaven because of his consistent use of the word "fool."

04

READ: Matthew 5:21-22 (NIV)

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.

∞ The common view of murder as held by the Jewish Sanhedrin:

Gloss and commentary of the Talmudists, 'Of not killing:" "He is a manslayer, whosoever shall strike his neighbour with a stone or iron, or thrust him into the water, or fire, whence he cannot come out, so that he die, he is guilty. But if he shall thrust another into the water or fire, whence he might come out, if he die, he is guiltless. A man sets a dog or serpent on another, he is guiltless." See also the Babylonian Gemara; "Whosoever shall slay his neighbour with his own hand, striking him with his sword, or with a stone, so that he kills him; or shall strangle or burn him so that he die, in any manner whatsoever killing him in his own person; behold, such a one is to be put to death by the Sanhedrin. But he that hires another by a reward to kill his neighbour, or who sends his servants, and they kill him; or he that thrusts him violently upon a lion, or upon some other beast, and the beast kill him; or he that kills himself, every one of these is a shedder of blood, and the iniquity of manslaughter is in his hand, and he is liable to death, by the hand of God; but he is not to be punished with death by the Sanhedrin."

- » What inconsistencies can you see here in the Jewish definition of "murder" that Jesus is trying to clear up?
- » Jesus states that the natural state of being "angry" with someone will receive the same divine punishment as murder. What does this say about God's personality?

NOTES

DIG DEEP...CONTINUED

NOTES

∞ The difference between *raca* and *moro*:

Raca - airhead, absent-minded

Moro - (spiritual sense) scoundrel, creep

READ: Matthew 5:23-26 (NIV)

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.

- ∞ Why do you think Christ would use the scenario of being at the altar when you remember an offence? Why would that be such an important time to think about those kinds of things?
- ∞ In verse 25, is Jesus speaking only about earthly courts, or is he speaking metaphorically about the heavenly courts as well?

 « If so, what is Jesus trying to tell us that God wants?

TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT...

- 1. How am I dealing with my anger right now?
- 2. What resolutions do I need to make in my broken relationships?
- 3. What part of God's character do I see more clearly now?



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