

The Law of the Kingdom

Lesson aim: To know the principles upon which the kingdom is founded; to properly understand the kind of righteousness God looks for in its citizens.

Jesus' relation to the OT and the relationship of His followers to it--Mt. 5:17-19

- 1. In what ways did Jesus affirm his respect for the Law of Moses?*
- 2. What is the theme of the Sermon on the Mount?*

Rabbinical tradition vs. Jesus' teaching--Mt. 5:20-48

- 1. As you read this section, what seems to be deficient about the "righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees"?*
- 2. Is it always wrong to be angry? What kind of anger does God condemn? What solutions does Jesus offer to the problem of anger?*
- 3. Is it sinful to have lust in the heart? How did Jesus propose to deal with this problem?*
- 4. What connection do you see between the teaching about lust and the teaching about divorce? What was Jesus' teaching about divorce? About remarriage after divorce?*
- 5. Is all swearing wrong or only a particular kind? What principle is Jesus encouraging in his teaching on this subject?*

6. *Is it wrong to resist evil in every circumstance? Is it wrong to seek compensation for wrongs done to one, for example, in a court of law? What principle is Jesus stressing in this teaching?*
7. *Did the Law of Moses teach "hate your enemy"? What did Jesus urge his disciples to do for their enemies?*

Research challenge:



The teachings of Jesus have been applied variously by disciples to the issue of participating in the authorized functions of government such as being a policeman or serving in the military. How would you apply the teachings to these situations? Be prepared to defend your answer.