

# Righteous Reconciliation

Matthew 5:21–25

**Matt. 5:20** “For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**Matthew 5:21–22** “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ **22** But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

## 1. The toxicity of \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 22)

- **1 John 3:15** Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.
- **Ephesians 4:26–27** “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, **27** and do not give the devil a foothold.

## 2. The danger of \_\_\_\_\_.

- 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.
- **Ps. 14:1** “The fool says in his heart “God does not exist.”
- **Matt. 23:17** “blind fools”

**Matthew 22:36-40** “...which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

## 3. Reconciliation is an \_\_\_\_\_ to hatred.

**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.

- **Bitterness toward people made in God’s image (especially other believers) and closeness to God \_\_\_\_\_ together in the heart of a person!**
- **1 John 4:20–21** If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.
- **Romans 12:18** If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

**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.

- **Do you hear what Jesus is saying? The message is very clear. Give up anger and hatred and bitterness. Be reconciled with people that you have hurt or have hurt you. And do it quickly!**

### Next Steps:

I want to receive salvation today.

I want to be baptized!

I want to be baptized.

I’d like to be contacted by a Pastor

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  Change my contact info

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:  1<sup>st</sup> time guest  2<sup>nd</sup> time guest  Regular Attendee  Member (taken membership class & committed to membership)

Prayer Requests/Praise Items: \_\_\_ Put this on the prayer chain.