

## The Deadly Sin of Anger – Pt. 1

Matthew 5:21–26

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**MAIN IDEA:** In Matthew 5:21–26, Jesus Christ addresses the sin of anger. And he teaches that in God's eyes sinful anger violates the sixth commandment ("You shall not murder"). As Jesus' disciples we must never excuse our sinful anger, and we must reconcile quickly when anger has breached our relationships.

### SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Law Against Murder Quoted (21a)
- II. The Law against Murder Misinterpreted (21b)
- III. The Law against Murder Explained (22)
- IV. The Law against Murder Applied (23-26)

### *General Observations Regarding Matthew 5:21–48*

1. Jesus' examples are representative, not exhaustive.
2. Jesus' examples are illustrations of heart obedience.
3. Jesus' examples confirm the 10 Commandments still serve a purpose in His kingdom.
  - a. To show unbelievers the reality of their sin and need for the gospel (Mt. 19:16-22; cf. Gal. 3:24)
  - b. To show His followers they must obey the 10 Commandments as a pattern of obedience (Mt. 5:21-48)
4. Jesus' examples don't disagree with the OT but the scribes.
  - a. Jesus' teaching about Scripture makes that clear (18).
  - b. Jesus' teaching here never contradicts the OT.
  - c. In two examples, Jesus not only recounts the OT law but also the rabbis' flawed interpretation (21,43).

### BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

1. Read Genesis 4:1–8. How do both the narrator (v. 5) and God (v. 6) describe Cain's reaction to God's approval of Abel's offering but disapproval of Cain's offering? How does verse 7 categorize Cain's response?

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. Discuss how you can use the 10 Commandments to evangelize unbelievers. Have you personally used the 10 Commandments when evangelizing? Share and discuss.
2. Discuss how Christians today should use the Ten Commandments in their own lives.
3. Read Ephesians 4:25–32. Do you struggle with the sin of anger? Where does anger find its origin? In Ephesians 4, what is part of Paul’s process for dealing with sin? Discuss.