

Sermon Handout: Our Father, Week 3

Sunday, June 9, 2024
Central Church of Christ

Contrast (Part 1) By Paul Webster

Main Points:

1. The Relevance of the Bible: Despite its age, the Bible addresses timeless human issues like sin, morality, and relationships.

Matthew 5:48 (NIV) - "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

2. Understanding Perfection
 - Two Forms of Perfection:
 - i. Positional Perfection: Justification by faith in Jesus Christ.
 - ii. Imparted Righteousness: The process of sanctification through the Holy Spirit.
3. Antitheses in Matthew 5
 - Murder and Anger:
 - i. Avoid not just murder but also anger and contempt.
 - Adultery and Lust:
 - ii. Avoid not just physical adultery but also lustful thoughts.
 - Divorce:
 - iii. Divorce is permitted but not required, even for marital unfaithfulness.
4. Living by the Spirit of the Law
 - i. Treat others with dignity and seek reconciliation.
 - ii. Remain pure and devoted to your spouse.

Bottom Line: God's children devote their hearts to the Father's complete holiness.

Join us next week for the continuation of this series!

Family Discussion Questions:

1. How do you see the Bible addressing issues we face today?
2. Can you think of a situation where a biblical principle helped you make a decision?
3. What does it mean to be "perfect" as our heavenly Father is perfect?
4. How can we strive for holiness in our daily lives?
5. Why do you think Jesus emphasized internal attitudes (like anger and lust) as much as external actions (like murder and adultery)?
6. How can we apply Jesus' teachings on reconciliation and purity in our relationships?
7. What are some practical ways we can treat others with dignity and seek reconciliation?
8. How can we remain faithful and devoted in our marriages or future relationships?

Scripture References: Matthew 5:21-48; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:2; Matthew 19:4-6