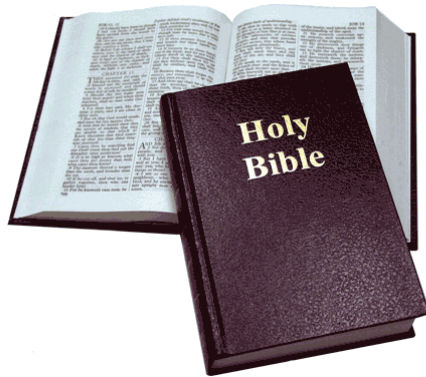


# The Sermon on the Mount

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STUDY 8

Reading: Matthew 5:21-26



## *Measuring sin in degrees*

Home Fellowship Group Bible Study Questions

Tuesday 16th/Wednesday 17th April 2013

Each of the next six blocks of verses follows the same pattern which goes something along the lines of: *"You have heard it said...but I say to you"*.

- 1) The two 'sins' in verses 21 and 22 seem to be a strange contrast; bearing in mind the degree of seriousness between the two. *What general point do you think Jesus is making here that is not specifically about murder or anger?*
- 2) In verse 23 Jesus places the emphasis on our attitude. *Why do you think Jesus uses 'giving at the altar' as an example?*
- 3) Look again at verses 23-24. At first glance the matter seems to be stated the wrong way round. *What is Jesus saying here and why does He tell us to leave our offering before the altar?*
- 4) In what ways does the instruction of verses 23-24 rub against the grain. How does it fit with what we have previously discovered in the Beatitudes?
- 5) For some of us, personal experience will reveal that it is not always possible to effect reconciliation. *How are we to deal with this?*
- 6) Verses 25-26 seem to step things up a further notch. *What is Jesus telling us here?*