

Lesson Notes:

### **It's What's on the inside that Counts**

As the saying goes you can't judge a book by its cover. All too often people will try to portray themselves as something that they are not. All that effectively served the Lord have a deep burning passion for Christ and compassion for people.

### **Scriptural Principles**

**1) Unless our righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees You cannot expect to go to Heaven. – Matthew 5:20-22**

In **Matthew 5:20-22** Jesus teaches us that anger is a very dangerous emotion and it prevents us from having a spirit that is pleasing to God. Self control is good but God wants us to practice thought control as well.

**2) Blessed are the pure in Heart for they shall see God. – Matthew 5:8**

A man is not a sinner because he sins. He sins because he is a sinner. A man is not a liar because he lies. He lies because he is a liar. Our actions come from our hearts. That's why we must have a pure heart. – **1 Peter 1:22**

**3) Thou shalt not kill – Matthew 5:21**

a) These words can actually be translated as thou shalt not commit murder. The Bible does not forbid capital punishment. **Exodus 21; 12** tells us, "he that smiteth a man so that he die shall be put to death".

b) **Exodus 22:2** permits killing in self defense.

c) **Nehemiah 4:13-15** permits fighting in defense of your country as the Jewish people did in 516 BC when they rebuilt Solomon's temple.

d) But in **Matthew 5:22** Jesus says that if you hate someone to the point of cursing them you are in danger of hell's fires.

e) **1 John 3:15** also says whoever hates his brother is a murderer.

**4) There is nothing wrong with Righteous angry. - Ephesians 4:26** tells us not to sin by allowing angry to gain control over you.

In **John 2:14-16** Jesus drove the lenders from the temple with a whip.

**5) Paul encourages us in Ephesians 4:31 – 32** to be kind to each other, tender hearted, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven you.

- 6) Remember to be Humble. **Isaiah 64:6** tells us that self-righteousness is as filthy rages in God's eyes.