

What about Righteousness?

Matthew 5:17-20

Pastor John Dunkin

Elgin Evangelical Free Church - August 18, 2024

I. The Upsetting Issue

A. Jesus has been preaching on Righteousness

B. Righteousness is the means by which I get to see God and experience approval.

C. What if Jesus is saying that everything I have been building upon doesn't count?

D. This is very upsetting!

II. The Unstated Questions

A. Jesus, are you changing the Law?

B. Jesus, who are you and how do you have this authority?

C. Jesus, why should we listen to you?

III. The Unalterable Consequences

A. Diluting the Law leads to Diminished Status

B. Keeping the Law leads to Kingdom Elevation

IV. The Unbending Opportunity

A. External Righteousness won't cut it.

B. Christ's fulfillment of the Law makes Him our means of Righteousness.

C. Do not bargain for Righteousness!

Here is a profound truth:

“Greatness is not determined by gifts, success, popularity, reputation, or size of ministry – but by a believer's view of Scripture as revealed in his life and teaching.”