

September 22, 2019
Matthew 5:21-26

IF LOOKS COULD KILL

I. Introduction:

II. Unpacking The Passage

A. Anger _____ Our Relationships

²¹"**You have heard that it was said** to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' ²²But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,^[a]' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell." Matthew 5:21-22

B. Anger Can _____ Our Hearts

Not all anger is bad. See Exodus 32:19; Mark 3:5; Mark 11:15-17; Ephesians 4:26

C. Anger Can _____ Our Worship

²³"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something **against you**, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:23-24

D. Reconciliation is _____

²⁵"**Settle matters quickly** with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny. Matthew 5:25-26

III. Conclusion And Application:

Illustration of Elijah: 1 Kings 19

Scriptures on Anger and Gentleness

Proverbs 15:1” “¹A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. “

Proverbs 29:11 “¹¹A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.”

Colossians 3:8 “⁸But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.”

James 1:19-20 “¹⁹My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.”

As you go through this week, think upon these questions:

- Is your attitude towards others under the control of the Holy Spirit? Write down an area or two that is not under control and ask God to help you with it.
- Ask yourself are your words under the control of the Holy Spirit? Ask God to help you watch what you say?
- Ask yourself, is there anyone that I need to be reconciled with? Someone that I need to go to and make things right? If so, ask God to open up the avenue to do just that?