

Time for An Extreme Makeover!

A Study of Matthew 5:17-20

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

First, on _____ Christ's attitude toward God's rules.

The Old Testament was fulfilled by . . .

. . . the p_____ he performed

. . . the precepts he taught

. . . the p_____ he lived

. . . the penalty he paid

. . . the p_____ he called

Second, c_____ Christ's attitude toward God's rules.

What's the bar we have to clear? Christ expects a righteousness that is . . .

. . . _____, not just external

. . . _____, not partial

. . . _____, not ceremonial

. . . _____-centered, not self-centered

“You are to be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
Matthew 5:48

Two encouragements:

First, these words are meant to _____ us, not depress us.

Second, Christ's tough commands drive us to Christ's wonderful _____.