

The Murderous Character of Hatred

Matthew 5:21-26

(series #26)

Intro: the word of God has always addressed the heart

I. The Teachings of the Rabbis v. 21

A. "...it was said by them of old time."

B. If you don't murder, your heart is right

II. The Teaching of Jesus v. 22

A. His authority - "but I say unto you" (7:28-29)

B. His message - hatred is murder

1. All anger is not sin - Ephesians 4:26

2. Christians sometimes give way to anger

III. The Illustrations of Jesus' Teaching vv. 23-26

A. A brother who has been offended vv. 23-24

1. We must leave our worship to reconcile

2. If our brother won't, we rest in Rom. 12:18

B. An adversary who is pressing vv. 25-26

1. Pursue reconciliation eagerly

2. If you lose, you must pay the full extent

Concluding applications: Address heart attitudes!