

Theme: God demands that I be perfect in holiness, love and integrity - and He gives this to me through Christ.

I. Intro – Our View of God - and Man

- A. Our view of God is very important
- B. Determines what we think God expects of us
- C. Note the link in Q16 & Q17
- D. Our thoughts of God determine what God demands of us
- E. Jesus is doing the same thing

II. What God Demands

- A. Jesus' command - be perfect! (v48)
- B. This is not just hyperbole!
 - 1. As God is perfect (v48)
 - 2. The Sermon goes beyond outer behavior
 - 3. Pharisees had domesticated Law to make it doable
 - 4. Jesus is restoring the Law - getting to heart
 - 5. Looks at the heart - perfection demanded there
 - 6. Do not blunt - God demands perfection of character like His
- C. Perfection of character in God - and us - Q16&17; table
 - 1. Holiness
 - a. Lev 19:2; Isa 6:3,5; 1Pe 1:15-16; Rev 4:8
 - b. God is the Holy One - then, now, forever

2. Love

- a. Matt 5:43-45; Eph 5:1-2; Lev 19:18
- b. Love as God loves; sacrificially; as ourselves

3. Integrity

- a. Lev 19:11; Psa 101:7; Col 3:9-10
- b. Show integrity as God does; utter faithfulness

D. The standard in all these areas is perfection!

- 1. Mat 5:48; James 2:10
- 2. This is the call - OT, NT, today - has not changed

III. What God Gives

- A. What God demands in law, He gives in the Gospel
 - 1. Christ has kept all of this perfectly! (active obedience)
 - a. Mat 5:17; Gal 4:4-5
 - b. Did not just die - kept law perfectly; full righteousness
 - 2. Christ died to forgive our lawlessness
 - a. Isa 53:6; 1 Pe 3:18
 - b. His death removes our sin!
- B. The Gospel - the Great Exchange
 - 1. 2 Cor 5:21; Heb 10:11-14
 - 2. We are perfect in His sight; clean, righteous
- C. What God has demanded; He has given!

IV. Communion - God Has Met His Own Demands

- A. Bread - In His Body Christ met the demands
- B. Juice - By His Blood Christ took our sins
- C. Here we remember the Great exchange!

What God Demands - And Gives

Matthew 5:48
Psalm 33:1-5
September 19, 2010
Communion
Numbers 6:24-26

Who is God?

God is the Infinite, Eternal, Sovereign Creator of everything, perfect in holiness, love, and integrity.

What does God demand of you?

God demands that I be perfect in holiness, love and integrity.

Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy. Leviticus 19:2

And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."... 5 "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." Isaiah 6:3, 5

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." 1 Peter 1:15-16

Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Revelation 4:8

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:1-2

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18

Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another. Leviticus 19:11

No one who practices deceit will dwell in my house; no one who speaks falsely will stand in my presence. Psalm 101:7

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Colossians 3:9-10

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. James 2:10

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Matthew 5:17

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, 5 to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Galatians 4:4-5

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. 1 Peter 3:18

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. 13 Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, 14 because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. Hebrews 10:11-14