

Sermon Notes - October 23, 2016

“Above and Beyond” Matthew 5:17-26 Pastor Bill Hoffman

Why might some people have thought Jesus was trying to *abolish* the law and the prophets? What are some possible ways to understand the sense in which Jesus means that he came to *fulfill* them?

- Note how Jesus demonstrates respect for the law in his responses to the rich young man (Mark 10:17f) and the law expert (Luke 10:25f).

Verse 20. See also Matthew 5:6 and 9:13 for similar ways in this gospel that Jesus uses the term *righteousness*.

- How is this different from the way the word is used in Genesis 15:6 and by Paul (for example, Romans 3:21)?
- What Jesus says in verse 20 would have been shocking to many of his hearers. Considering the example in verses 21-26, and skimming the rest of Matthew 5, in what way does the *righteousness* Jesus calls for *surpass* that of the religious leaders?