



ONE AWESOME SERMON:
NO HARBOR FOR HATE

Matthew 5:21-26

VSS. 21-22

“*murder*” An unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, either expressed or implied.
From the root, “to dash to pieces”


“brother” Perhaps specific to Body of Christ, but also community member, neighbor

“judgment” Before the (Jewish) courts

“Raca” From the Chaldeans, “O empty one”

“You fool” (Silly, stupid, foolish. MOROS The root of the Eng. ‘moron’ Morally worthless.) Raca scorns a man’s mind. Moros scorn his heart and character

“hell” The Hinnom valley, outside Jerusalem. AKA the “Valley of Slaughter” from the days of the ancient kings. In Jesus’s day, a garbage dump that burned continually, symbolizing the eternal fires of hell



The One who designed our hearts assures us that the hatred in the human heart which is expressed in slander is the same root from which “dashing one to pieces” grows (See Matt. 12:34)

“Let the words of my mouth AND the meditations of my heart, be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.” Ps. 19:14



VSS. 23-24

“Therefore” demands close attention to context

“offering gift at altar” an act of worship

“brother has something against you” (You are the offender)

What if they are the offender? What then?

Matthew 18:15-17



“leave the gift sit at the altar. Go and be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift”

NOTE: our relationship with God is necessarily impacted by our relationships with people

Parable of the unforgiving servant

Matthew 18:21ff

See also 1 Peter 3:7

VSS. 25-26

Intentional switch to “adversary” suggests again that this isn’t just Kingdom life (between ‘brothers’) but is a heart issue Jesus is addressing

Settle quickly, outside the courtroom

See also 1 Cor. 6:1-8