

Pastor: Jonathan Rayder

Date: 10/24/2021

Sermon Title: **“THE HEART BEHIND MURDER”**

Matthew 5:21-22

- Unity, based on ANYTHING other than in Jesus is insufficient & temporary at best (more than a moral cause or a common interest)
  - Believers are Knit Together & Fused Together (we’re one body) because of the commonality we share in Jesus Christ
- How should believers handle divisions & disagreements?
- Jesus is exposing the heart behind the Law (God’s Word exposes the very heart of mankind)
- The visual is that God’s Word splits us right down the middle & it exposes ALL the nooks & crannies within us (we’re laid bare before God)
- We’ve got to realize, Yes, God’s interested in the task, but God’s equally interested in the heart behind the task (outward & inward obedience)
- These verses center on living at peace with others & seeking to reconcile (when possible)
- Anger directed toward someone else is a very serious matter
  - 1 – If you have a problem w/ someone else ... Go & Address it
  - 2 – If you know someone has a problem with you ... Go & Address it
- This entire passage equates the physical act of murder to anger
  - “Raka” = you empty-headed person (a term of reproach – often used out of anger)
  - “You Fool” = where we get the term Moron (vocalizing your contempt for another person)
- Unaddressed, Undealt with, Unjust (Unrighteous) Anger ... is 100% Unacceptable