

**Matthews Gospel "The Sermon On The Mount"**  
**"The Christian And Sincere Speech"**  
**Matthew 5:33-37**  
**Part-21**

**Speech** – what is it, "the vibration of the air set in motion by vocal chord, tongue, and lip." Apparently mechanical, yet how spiritual.

**Religious leaders were not concerned about lying or telling the truth. They were only concerned about procedures:**

1. The formula for swearing or the giving of an oath
2. Don't use God's name in vain - Use it only for special occasions

**Matt 5:17-48 Christian's Righteousness:**

The Key Verse in the Sermon: Matthew 5:20

Each one starts with the phrase: "You have heard." 6 X's

Jesus then says to the people - "But I say to you" 7 X's

Illustration #1 Christian and Anger – Matt 5:21-26

Illustration #2 Christian and Sex – Matt 5:27-30

Illustration #3 Christian and Divorce – Matt 5:31-32

Now Illustration #4 Christian and sincere speech – Matt 5:33-37

**We will look at 3 areas in our study:**

1. Verse – 33 Letter Of The Law
2. Verses – 34-36 Spirit Of The Law
3. Verse – 37 Application Of The Law

**1. Verse – 33 Letter Of The Law:**

- Matt 5:33
- Matt 5:31-32

The religious were very permissive about divorce, (Hard-heartedness) this can be traced back to being permissive in their teaching about oaths (Human-untruthfulness).

**vows** – “Swear - an oath,” “the speaker calls upon God to witness his vow, and to punish him if he should fail to keep it”

### **What the Old Testament Taught:**

1. In the OT, Vows were Encouraged:

- Deut 10:20
- Jer 12:16-17

2. The OT Discouraged Making Vows, then not willing to fulfill your commitment:

- Exodus 20:7
- Leviticus 19:12
- Numbers 30:2
- Deuteronomy 23:21-23

### **What the Religious Taught:**

1. Some Rabbis not all, were teaching that the attention was to be on the formula of the vow not the vow itself and the need to keep it!

2. (They said the Law prohibits taking God’s name in vain) The vows that were made that did not include God in them were not really binding.

3. A system of conveyance developed that legislated lying:

It was common to try and convince others that you were telling the truth when you were really lying.

**We will either change to be like God .... or we will try to change God to be like us!**

### **2. Verses – 34-36 Spirit Of The Law:**

- Matt 5:34
- Matt 26:63-64

2 Cor. 1:23 This is equal to saying, "I swear before almighty God"

- Romans 1:9

**Old Testament:**

**Abraham and Eleazar** - Gen. 24 - Bride for Isaac

**Joseph** - Gen. 50 - Sons of Israel

**David and Jonathan** - I Sam. 20

**Paul** - (5x's) "God is witness" Rom.1:9, 2 Cor. 1:23, Phil.1:8, 1 Thess. 2:5-10

- Matt 5:35
- Matt 5:36
- Matt 23:16-22

**3. Verse – 37 Application Of The Law:**

- Matt 5:37
- James 5:12
- Eph 4:22-32

**Application:**

1. Honest people don't need to take oaths because they are honest!
2. Oath taking is not a normal everyday event for a child of God, but there may be times that we may be called upon to testify in court, or give a deposition and God does not forbid us from doing so.
3. What should be normal to the Christian is that we would be truthful, that what we say is the truth, and what we commit to we will follow thru in.
4. Do I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?
5. Does my heart long to be honest?
6. Do I realize that Jesus Christ witnesses all that I say? Do I realize that I will answer to God for my actions?

7. How do I treat my family?

- Co-workers
- Neighbors
- Church Family

- Acts 5:1-11