

The Great Fulfiller

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus turns every thing upside down. He shakes everything up. He switches the price tags.

Those listening in on the Sermon on the Mount could have easily come to the conclusion that the Old Testament law was no longer viable.

"The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority!" **Mark 1:27**

Jesus knew their thoughts and answered by saying, *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets."*

The Law – Some believe that Christ came to put an end to the law.

"Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes." **Romans 10:4**

Torah - "to throw something." The law is a gracious gift from God meant to provide direction through life.

Fulfill – to fill full.

"Don't suppose for a minute that I have come to demolish the Scriptures – either God's Law or the Prophets. I'm not here to demolish but to complete. I am going to put it all together, pull it all together in a vast panorama. God's Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long after stars burn out and earth wears out, God's Law will be alive and working." **Matt. 5:17-18**

How does Jesus fulfill the law?

1. Confirms the law
2. Embodies the law
3. Broadens the law



Anger – As we said before, Jesus is plunging us quickly into the guts of human existence. Anger is where many of us, if not most of us, live. He longs to help us with it.

Three Observations:

1. Jesus is addressing **long-lived anger**.
2. There is an **escalation** in the anger Jesus is describing. – There is a movement from the decision to nurse our anger, leading to snide comments and finally into full-blown anger that seeks to publicly demean another.
3. Christ is fulfilling the **Sixth Commandment**.

Two principles about resolving anger:

1. Will to reconcile –
2. Do it quickly –

Resources:

- "Living in Sync" (Regent College Seminary Class) by Darrell Johnson
- "Sermon on the Mount" by John R.W. Stott
- "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- "Traveling Light" by Eugene Peterson
- "The Divine Conspiracy" by Dallas Willard