



Title: Can't Get There From Here

Date: 8.23.09

Series: Legally Yours

Text: Matt 5

Synopsis: So bottom-line it for me. What do I gotta do. The Bible is a big book with a lot of rules and I know I don't have to follow all of them (that's legalism) but surely I gotta follow some of them. So give me the bottom line. Which ones do I keep and which ones am I free from? Simple right?

Well, maybe not so simple. After all Jesus did say that if I get angry with my brother I am guilty of murdering him (pretty sure I've done that). He also said if I look at woman lustfully I've committed adultery with her (I know for sure I've done that). He even said that if a person strikes my cheek I'm supposed to let him hit my other cheek and if he steals my shirt I'm supposed to give him my coat as well (no way I'm doing that). Sounds like Jesus made the rules even harder!

And that's just the point. Just in case we think that faith is a bunch of rules we keep or don't keep, Jesus let's us know we can't get there from here. If we think we are getting into heaven based on our ability to follow the rules, then we would have to do a better job of it than even the Pharisees did and they were awesome at it! Jesus expanded the Law so that even the "righteous" Pharisees couldn't get in without recognizing that he is the fulfillment of the Law. He said, "Nobody comes to the Father except through me." Simply put, without Jesus, we simply can't get there from here.