

Righteousness Beyond Religion

Matthew 5:20

1. Who were the Scribes and Pharisees?
 - a. The Pharisees:
 - b. The Scribes:
 - c. Their problem with Jesus:

2. How must your righteousness exceed theirs?
 - a. Your righteousness must exceed theirs in _____.
 - b. Your righteousness must exceed theirs in _____.

3. What will happen if it does not?

**BE DIFFERENT
LIVE DIFFERENT**

Matthew 5-7



ID



Righteousness Beyond Religion

Matthew 5:20



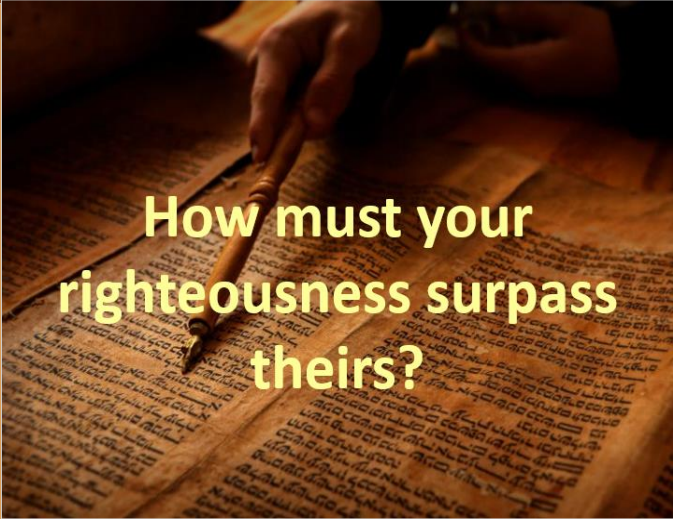
Matthew 5:20

For I say to you, that unless your
righteousness surpasses that of the scribes
and Pharisees, you will not enter the
kingdom of heaven.





**Who were the scribes
and Pharisees?**



**How must your
righteousness surpass
theirs?**



**What will happen if it
does not?**

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a wooden quill pen, poised to write on an open book. The book's pages are filled with dense, handwritten text in a cursive script, likely Hebrew. The lighting is warm and focused on the pen and the text, creating a sense of historical or scholarly work.

Who were the scribes and Pharisees?

The Sanhedrin

The ruling council



The Sanhedrin

The ruling council

The Sadducees

The Pharisees



The Sanhedrin

The ruling council

The Sadducees

The Pharisees

The Scribes



The Pharisees



The Pharisees were religious separatists who were zealous both for the written law of Moses but also especially for their own oral law or tradition.



Matthew 7:5

And the Pharisees and the scribes asked *Jesus*, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to **the tradition of the elders**, but eat their bread with impure hands?"

The Pharisees



The Sanhedrin

The ruling council

The Sadducees

The Pharisees

The Scribes



The Scribes



The scribes were tradesmen.
Many became experts in the law
and were called *lawyers*.
Many were also Pharisees.



Luke 7:30

But the Pharisees and **the lawyers** rejected God's purpose for themselves, not having been baptized by John.

Matthew 22:34-35

But when the Pharisees heard that He had put the Sadducees to silence, they gathered themselves together. And **one of them, a lawyer**, asked Him a question, testing Him...

**What was their
problem with Jesus?**



Matthew 5:20

For I say to you,
that unless your righteousness
greatly surpasses that of the scribes
and Pharisees, you will not enter
the kingdom of heaven.



Matthew 5:20

For I say to you,

that unless your righteousness
greatly surpasses that of the scribes
and Pharisees, you will not enter
the kingdom of heaven.



Their problem was with the authority that Jesus claimed.

Do you have a problem with His authority?



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a wooden quill pen, poised to write on an open book. The book's pages are filled with dense, handwritten text in Hebrew script. The lighting is warm and focused, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood of the quill. The background is softly blurred, emphasizing the act of writing.

**How must your
righteousness surpass
theirs?**

Matthew 5:20

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness **greatly** surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.



**Your righteousness must
exceed theirs in quality.**



In Matthew 5:21-48, Jesus makes a statement like “you have heard that it was said, but I say to you...” **six** times.



Religious righteousness is
outward obedience to a law
domesticated by man.



- v 21** You have heard that the ancients were told, “You shall not commit murder” ...
- v 27** You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery” ...
- v 43** You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.”



But the righteousness you
need is that which can only
come from a heart made
new by God.



Ezekiel 36:26-27

Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
and I will remove the heart of stone from
your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you
will be careful to observe My ordinances.



Ezekiel 36:26-27

**Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;**

and I will remove the heart of stone from
your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you
will be careful to observe My ordinances.



**Do you have a new
heart and a new spirit?**



**Your righteousness must also
exceed theirs in quantity.**

The scribes and Pharisees'
meticulously practiced the
works of the law.



Luke 18:11-12

The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself, “God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.”



But they did not do a single
good work because all that
they did was self-generated
and self-satisfying.



Luke 18:11-12

The Pharisee stood and was praying thus **to himself**, “God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.”



The good works you need
are those that must be
generated by God for God.



Ezekiel 36:26-27

Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
and I will remove the heart of stone from
your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes,
and you will be careful to observe
My ordinances.



Ezekiel 36:26-27

Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
and I will remove the heart of stone from
your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

**And I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes,**

and you will be careful to observe
My ordinances.



Ezekiel 36:26-27

Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
and I will remove the heart of stone from
your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes,

**and you will be careful to observe
My ordinances.**



Because genuine believers
are given the Spirit of God,
their lives will be
increasingly marked by
obedience to God.



**Is your life marked by
obedience to the law
of Christ?**



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a wooden quill pen over an open book. The book's pages are filled with dense, handwritten text in Hebrew script. The lighting is warm and focused on the pen and the text, creating a sense of historical or scholarly work. The text on the pages is arranged in columns, typical of traditional Hebrew manuscripts.

**What will happen if it
does not?**

Matthew 5:20

For I say to you, that unless your
righteousness greatly surpasses that
of the scribes and Pharisees,
you will not enter the
kingdom of heaven.



Matthew 5:20

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness greatly surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees,

**you will not enter the
kingdom of heaven.**



John 3:3

Jesus answered and said to him,
"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born
again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Your entrance into Christ's kingdom depends upon God's gift of life to you.

Are you born again?



***The most important
evidence for this new life
is a new love.***



Matthew 22:37-40

And He said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



Matthew 22:37-40

And He said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

**On these two commandments
depend the whole Law
and the Prophets.**

**Are you sure
you're going to
enter Christ's
kingdom?**



The Sanhedrin

The ruling council

The Sadducees

The Pharisees

The Scribes



The Scribes

