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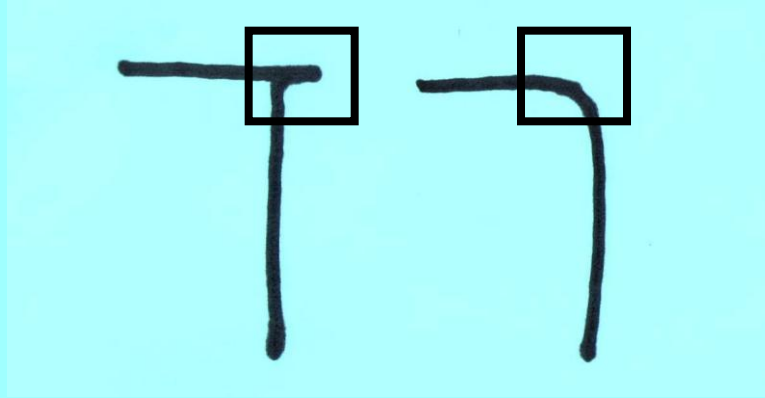
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“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

Words matter.

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

Ski-Doo

Sea-Doo

Kleenex

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**We have to know our letters so we
can read the words.**

**But we need more than bare
words to have understanding ...**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

phrases

sentences

syntax

context

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**Genre: the type of literature ... in
the Bible we have ...**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**story-telling that is factual and for
a purpose – more than simply
stringing stories together**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**Hebrew poetry and Greek poetry
and ancient hymns of the church**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

conversations

**letters written to particular people
in a particular place**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**letters written to specific
churches**

**or letters meant to be read as
circular letters passed from
church to church**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**great prophetic writings like
Isaiah or Jeremiah**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**prophecy coupled with
apocalyptic imagery in Daniel and
Ezekiel and Revelation**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**parables of Jesus and, of course,
direct instruction**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**some 40 human authors
written over 1600 years**

**all pointing toward
a single person
a single purpose
one message**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**The Bible shows us sinful human
beings the way back to God.**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

Words matter.

**Jesus submits himself completely
to the written word of God**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

Jesus corrects wrong thinking

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**that somehow we have to become
good enough to find the way back
to God**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**turns the tables on conventional
wisdom**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

law-abiding citizen

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

good ... but not good enough

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

super religious law-abiding citizen

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

good, maybe

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

... but not good enough

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**How good do we have to be to
find our way back home to God?**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**How good were they, really?
(camp here awhile)**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

We need a righteousness that surpasses, that exceeds by far, the best righteousness we know.

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

We need a righteousness that surpasses, that exceeds by far the best righteousness we know.

Such a righteousness comes, not by trying harder, but by ...

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

Trusting

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**no longer trusting in our own
goodness (knowing we can never
be good enough)**

**but trusting in the goodness of
God and the gift of His Son**

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

“The righteous will live by faith.”

Romans 1:17

(quoting Habakkuk 2:4)

“So, we’ve got to be better than that ?!”

Matthew 5:17-20

**“We walk by faith and not by
sight.”**

2 Corinthians 5:7