

Don't squash the Woolly Bear

Matthew 5.21-26

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,

Psalm 51.10-17_{NRSV}

O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of
your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your
praise.

For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a
burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51.10-17_{NRSV}

You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times,
'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be
liable to judgment.

Matthew 5.21_{NRSV}

But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire.

Matthew 5.22_{NRSV}

The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

Genesis 4.6-7_{NRSV}

Just what does a restored
and renewed life look like?

So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5.23-24_{NRSV}

What happens when we walk
through the door of Justice and
straight into the heart of Mercy?

For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

James 2.11-13_{NRSV}

Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Matthew 5.25-26_{NRSV}

What are we to do with
Mercy when it is given to us?

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

Genesis 1.27_{NRSV}

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

1 John 3.1a_{NRSV}

But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Colossians 3.8-15_{NRSV}

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Colossians 3.12-15_{NRSV}

Scripture text here

Scripture verse here_{NRSV}

Communion

New Meaning into Old
Remembrances

