



BACK

-to-

SCHOOL

DON'T FORGET

Our Destiny is Elsewhere

● Matthew 5.3,10-12

➔ How will I respond to hardship and persecution this year?

▶ People mocking me for righteousness

▶ People excluding me because of my beliefs/standards/morals

▶ If I was on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict?

➔ Our persecution reveals our destiny.

➔ Our reward is coming.



Conduct Reflects Destiny

- **Matthew 5.9-10 — in the kingdom? Sons of God!**
 - ➔ **My behavior indicates the kind of person I am and the destiny of my life.**
 - ▶ **Am I humble (5.3)? Am I pure in heart (5.8)?**
 - ▶ **Am I merciful (5.7)? Am I a peacemaker (5.9)?**
 - ➔ **Conforming my behavior to God's will is crucial:**
 - ▶ **It's how I preserve the world (5.13)**
 - ▶ **It's how I give light to the world (5.14f)**
 - ▶ **It's how I lead people to God (5.16)**



Conduct Begins in the Heart

- **Matthew 5.20 — we must be better than the scribes and Pharisees**
 - ➔ **Murder is wrong — but so is the attitude which leads to it (5.21f).**
 - ▶ **Am I in control of my emotions?**
 - ▶ **Note the test that Jesus recommends — how good am I at controlling my tongue?**
 - ➔ **Adultery is wrong — but so is the attitude which produces it (5.27ff).**
 - ▶ **Ungodly lust is condemned in all its forms**
 - ▶ **Such an attitude is heartfelt and wrong**
 - ▶ **I “keep my heart with all diligence” by avoiding such sins by any means necessary.**



Heart produces Conduct

Conduct reveals Destiny

Destiny is Elsewhere and Assured

