

## Getting the Sermon on the Mount into My Soul

### **Today: How Are You Planning on Getting into Heaven?**

Matthew 5: 20

Pastor Tim Maddock

*There are words spoken in a phenomenal speech or during a historical event that are forever etched into the souls of those who witness the event. Neil Armstrong, Winston Churchill, Mother Teresa, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King...all uttered words that are memorable due to their power, timing, or call to rise above mediocrity. But none can match Jesus' words in Matthew 5: 20 for eternal impact...*

***"For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and teachers of the law...you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven"***

***Who does Jesus think he is to make such a demand?***

*(check out how the SOM ends)*

***Righteousness...being right with God...is a priority in Jesus' teaching and ministry (5: 6 and 10)***

***How do you think most folks initially responded to this teaching?***

***For comparison sake, how "righteous" were the Pharisees and teachers of the law?***

***Jesus dealt with the Pharisees a lot during his ministry...what did He think of them? (Matthew 23)***

***If God isn't looking for external righteousness...if that doesn't cut it...what will?***

***I need a "surpassing/exceeding/abounding above" righteousness...where can I find it?***

- *Philippians 3: 4-9*
- *Romans 3: 21, 22*
- *Galatians 2: 20, 21*
- *2 Corinthians 5: 21*

***"I am right with God because I am \_\_\_\_\_"***