

5 Internal Enemies of the 8 Values

8 Values: Humility, Mourning sin (others), Gentleness, Righteousness (hunger/thirst), Mercy, Heart Purity, Peacemaking, Fear of God (persecution)

8 Values don't replace the Law, but fully Satisfy its intent (Mt 5:17-20)

Standard: Perfection – never lower the bar (least commandments)

(Mt 5:48) Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Purpose of Law: Awareness, not Perfection (Rom 7:7, Gal 3:19, 23-24)

(Ro 8:3-4) ³For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. (2 Cor 5:21)

In Him, by His Spirit, we can live the 8 Values that fulfill the Law

5 Internal Enemies of the 8 Values – from Outward Behavior to Heart Intentions

1. **Anger** (Mt 5:21-26) – prioritize Reconciliation even over worship, Cost!

(Ga 5:14-15) ¹⁴For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

2. **Lusts** (Mt 5:27-32) – radically cut off root causes of sin (Rom 13:14)

our lusts will choke out the 8 Values

(Lk 8:14) Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

3. **Religious Performance** (Mt 5:33-37) – puts our Effort over His Grace (outward)

4. **Demand for Justice** (Mt 5:38-42) – endure insult and loss, serve, give

we Pray for Him to execute justice while we cultivate the 8 Values (give up right)

5. **Right to Withhold Love** (Mt 5:43-48)

(Ro 13:8) Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

What if God really thinks we can be as Awesome in Love and Mercy as He is?