

**“Grace Raises The Bar”**

**(Matthew 5:17-32, pew Bible page 810)**

1. A Higher Bar for Righteousness (vv. 17-20)
2. The Scriptures (vv. 17-19)
3. Preeminent (v. 17)
4. Permanent (v. 18)
5. Pertinent (v. 19)
6. The Standard (v. 20)
7. Not external, “technical,” and self-elevating
8. But internal, heart-driven, and for the Glory of God
9. A Higher Bar for Anger (vv. 21-26)
10. The established standard: Don’t murder. (v. 21)
11. The standard of grace: Authentic reconciliation (vv. 22-26)
12. A Higher Bar for Lust (vv. 27-30)
13. The established standard: Don’t commit technical adultery. (v. 27)
14. The standard of grace: Mortify your flesh. (vv. 28-30) (See Romans 8:13, Colossians 3:5)
15. A Higher Bar for Marriage (vv. 31-32)
16. The established standard: Do the right thing technically. (v. 31)
17. The standard of grace: Honor marriage. (v. 32)