More Righteous Than Pharisees

MT. 5.17-20

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:20

Review the Sermon

Read Mt. 5.17-20.
What was the difference between Jesus' claim and the Pharisees' expectations about the Scriptures being accomplished? What did the Pharisees ultimately want for the nation?
How did the scribes and Pharisees "relax" God's commandments with their added rules?
What is the difference between the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, and the righteousness Jesus demands of his disciples?
How has Jesus fulfilled and accomplished God's Word FOR us? IN us? THROUGH us?
Assess your Life
Are there ways in which you seek to keep score of your righteousness? How does this scorekeeping affect you?

Is there any goal or dream in your life that you're desiring more than God fulfilling his purposes through his Word?
What challenges do you currently face in your obedience to God's Word?
Apply the Truth
How can you ensure that you do not relax God's commandments in your life and still avoid legalism?
How can Jesus' fulfillment of all the requirements of Scripture help you to live out your own true righteousness? In what way can his victory be yours?
What adjustments need to be made in daily life to improve your obedience to the Word?
Commit this Week
Will you commit this week to hungering and thirsting for God's righteousness to be worked out in your life?

"For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished." Matthew 5:18