

The Sermon On The Mount v2

Lesson 10
Revenge
Mat 5:38-42

Oaths

1. Their wrong tradition about oaths
2. The Law taught oaths to the Lord must be truthful and faithful
3. The Law and Jesus taught truthfulness and faithfulness at all times
4. The gospel teaches truthfulness and faithfulness at all times
5. Can Christians swear oaths today?

2

Introduction

- In Mat 5:21-48, Jesus gives six examples where He contrasts the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees with the righteousness of His kingdom that was in harmony both with the Law of Moses and the gospel
- Their misguided shallow rebellious righteousness led them to deemphasize inward change while focusing on loosely following outward conduct

3

Introduction

- As Jesus said in Mat 5:20, our righteousness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees if we are going to enter His kingdom
- Their shallow view of God's laws about addressing personal conflicts led them to believe they could personally take revenge against those who had wronged them

4

Introduction

- But Jesus reveals God never authorized their personal revenge
- And, instead of returning evil for evil, they should do good to their enemies

5

Their Wrong Tradition About Revenge

Mat 5:38 "You have heard that it was said, 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.'

6

Their Wrong Tradition About Revenge

- Jesus quotes from the Law referring to the phrase found in at least 3 places, 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.'
- Like many passages, they had misunderstood and misapplied these, seemingly justifying personal revenge

7

Their Wrong Tradition About Revenge

- But, the Law prescribed these rules to be followed and administered by judges so fair punishments would be insured
- The Law actually forbid one from taking personal revenge, taking the law into one's own hands

8

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Mat 5:39 "But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

9

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Exo 21:22 "If men struggle with each other and strike a woman with child so that she gives birth prematurely, yet there is no injury, he shall surely be fined as the woman's husband may demand of him, and he shall pay as the judges *decide*.

Exo 21:23 "But if there is *any further* injury, then you shall appoint as a *penalty* life for life,

10

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Exo 21:24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

Exo 21:25 burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

11

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Deu 19:15 "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.

Deu 19:16 "If a malicious witness rises up against a man to accuse him of wrongdoing,

12

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Deu 19:17 then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who will be *in office* in those days.

Deu 19:18 "The judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness *and* he has accused his brother falsely,

13

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Deu 19:19 then you shall do to him just as he had intended to do to his brother. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you.

Deu 19:20 "The rest will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you.

Deu 19:21 "Thus you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

14

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Lev 24:17 'If a man takes the life of any human being, he shall surely be put to death.

Lev 24:18 'The one who takes the life of an animal shall make it good, life for life.

Lev 24:19 'If a man injures his neighbor, just as he has done, so it shall be done to him:

15

Personal Revenge Forbidden By Jesus and The Law

Lev 24:20 fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; just as he has injured a man, so it shall be inflicted on him.

Lev 24:21 'Thus the one who kills an animal shall make it good, but the one who kills a man shall be put to death.

Lev 24:22 'There shall be one standard for you; it shall be for the stranger as well as the native, for I am the LORD your God.'"

16

Jesus and The Law Taught Overcome Evil With Good

Mat 5:40 "If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also.

Mat 5:41 "Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

Mat 5:42 "Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

17

Jesus and The Law Taught Overcome Evil With Good

Exo 23:4 "If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey wandering away, you shall surely return it to him.

Exo 23:5 "If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying *helpless* under its load, you shall refrain from leaving it to him, you shall surely release *it* with him.

18

Jesus and The Law Taught Overcome Evil With Good

Lev 19:18 'You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

Pro 20:22 Do not say, "I will repay evil"; Wait for the LORD, and He will save you.

19

Jesus and The Law Taught Overcome Evil With Good

Pro 25:21 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

Pro 25:22 For you will heap burning coals on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

20

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Rom 12:17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

Rom 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

Rom 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

21

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Rom 12:20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."

Rom 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

22

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Rom 13:1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Rom 13:2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

23

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Rom 13:3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

Rom 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. ²⁴

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Act 25:11 "If, then, I am a wrongdoer and have committed anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die; but if none of those things is *true* of which these men accuse me, no one can hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar."

25

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

Mat 10:16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.

Mat 10:23 "But whenever they persecute you in one city, flee to the next; for truly I say to you, you will not finish *going through* the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.

26

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

2Ti 4:14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.

2Ti 4:15 Be on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching.

27

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

1Pe 2:18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable.

1Pe 2:19 For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

28

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

1Pe 2:20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God.

1Pe 2:21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

29

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

1Pe 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

1Pe 2:23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

30

The Gospel Forbids Personal Revenge and Teaches Overcoming Evil With Good

1Pe 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Revenge

1. Their wrong tradition about revenge
2. Personal revenge forbidden by Jesus and the Law
3. Jesus and the Law taught overcome evil with good
4. The gospel forbids personal revenge and teaches overcoming evil with good