



“If you continue in My word, then are you My Disciples **InDeed...**”

Non-Resistance: What The Bible Says Part 1

Matthew 5:38-39 “Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.”

The new Kingdom of Christ takes another radical departure from the Old Covenant of Moses in these verses. Under the law, they were encouraged to exact payment from those who wronged them by afflicting their offender in the same way that they were hurt. In Jesus’ Kingdom we’re not allowed to do that anymore, but rather are called to “turn the other cheek” to the one who smites us or ‘slaps us in the face’. Aside from the literal meaning of striking someone with the hand, what else does a ‘slap in the face’ represent?

Most of us will never be physically slapped in the face, but all of us have been emotionally slapped at times. What beatitudes are we going to especially need in order to keep Jesus’ command when we are ‘slapped in the face’? _____

What does it look like to turn the other cheek when someone says something hurtful to you or defames your reputation to others? _____

Why do you think Jesus changed this law in the New Covenant? What’s different in the New Covenant of Christ’s Kingdom from the Old Covenant given to Moses that necessitated such a change? _____

Does it take a stronger person to fight back when they are physically or verbally assaulted or to keep from retaliating? Why? _____

Where is the most likely place we will be tested in our non-resistance toward those who hurt us: on a street corner witnessing, in our church relationships, or at home with our family? _____

What does Romans 12:14-21 and especially verse 19 teach us about revenge and how we should view it?

Are You a “Disciple InDeed”?

1. Have you ever ‘turned the other cheek’ toward someone who hurt you in some way?
2. Do you try and get back at others and have the last word when they revile or criticize you, or do you give them opportunity to slap you on the other side?
3. Would your husband/wife/child/neighbor attest to your nonresistance?

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Doers of the Word

What are you going to do with God’s Word today?

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Further Study:

Lev 24:20, 1Pet. 3:9, 1Thes 5:15, Pro 16:32

“...And you shall know The Truth, and The Truth shall **make you Free!**”

