

Matthew Series

Lesson #033

May 11, 2014

Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Grace Orientation

Matthew 5:38–42

Matt. 5:38, “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ”

Ex. 21:23, “But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life,

Ex. 21:24, “eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

Ex. 21:25, “burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.”

Lev. 24:19, “If a man causes disfigurement of his neighbor, as he has done, so shall it be done to him—

Lev. 24:20, “fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; as he has caused disfigurement of a man, so shall it be done to him.

Lev. 24:21, “And whoever kills an animal shall restore it; but whoever kills a man shall be put to death.”

Deut. 19:21, “Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

lex talionis

This Latin phrase (meaning literally “the law of that [same] kind”) refers to a principle of retaliation whereby a person suffers the same harm that he or she has inflicted on someone else. The concept is expressed in the Bible as early as Gen. 9:6, “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed,” but especially in Exod. 21:23–25,... The principle expresses not only the validity of legal retaliation but also, and perhaps primarily, the requirement of equity and proportionality in the administration of punishment.

Matt. 5:39, “But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”







A
Rookie
reader

Ants in My Pants

Written by Norma Vanfreese
Illustrated by Steve Cox





THE CAT'S OUT
OF THE BAG







Matt. 5:39, “But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”

ἀνθίστημι *anthistēmi*

aor act infin

“to resist, oppose, to be in opposition to, set oneself against, oppose, resist, stand firm against”

Matt. 5:39, “But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”

ἀνθίστημι *anthistēmi*

aor act infin

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πονηρός *ponēros*

dat masc sing

“to be morally or socially worthless, wicked, evil, bad, base, vicious, degenerate”

- 1. The command: Don't resist an evil person**
 - a. Personal command related to interpersonal behavior.**
 - b. The behavior consistent with righteousness is also consistent with grace and impersonal love.**
 - c. Four examples are given:**
 - 1. Handling personal insults.**
 - 2. Being taken advantage of in the courtroom.**
 - 3. Grace-orientation toward an oppressive government.**
 - 4. Grace and generosity toward those in need.**

Matt. 5:39, “But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”

ῥαπίζω *hrapizō*

pres act indic 3 sing

“to strike, to slap”

Matt. 5:40, “If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.”

Ex. 22:25, “If you lend money to any of My people who are poor among you, you shall not be like a moneylender to him; you shall not charge him interest.

Ex. 22:26, “If you ever take your neighbor’s garment as a pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down.

Ex. 22:27, “For that is his only covering, it is his garment for his skin. What will he sleep in? And it will be that when he cries to Me, I will hear, for I am gracious.”

Deut. 24:10, “When you lend your brother anything, you shall not go into his house to get his pledge.

Deut. 24:11, “You shall stand outside, and the man to whom you lend shall bring the pledge out to you.

Deut. 24:12, “And if the man is poor, you shall not keep his pledge overnight.

Deut. 24:13, “You shall in any case return the pledge to him again when the sun goes down, that he may sleep in his own garment and bless you; and it shall be righteousness to you before the LORD your God.”

Matt. 5:41, “And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.”

**Matt. 5:42, “Give to him who asks you,
and from him who wants to borrow from
you do not turn away.”**

Matt. 5:43, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ”

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*
“to love”**