



CAN of WORMS

Turn the Other Cheek

Matthew 5:38-42 (ESV)

Matthew 5:38 You have heard that it was said, “An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.”³⁹ But I say to you, do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

James 4:1-2 (ESV) “What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this that your passions are at war within you? You lust and do not have...”

Three Viewpoints in this Passage

1. **PRINCIPLE** of the **LAW** “Eye for an Eye...”

Leviticus 24:19-20 If anyone injures his neighbor, as he has done it shall be done to him, fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; whatever injury he has given a person shall be given to him.

1 Timothy 1:8-9 “Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners...”

The Law in the Old Testament found Three Times

Exodus 21:22-23 “When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman’s husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth...” (similar wording in Leviticus 24)

Deuteronomy 19:15-19 “A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established... The judges shall inquire diligently, and if the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely, then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. The rest shall hear and fear, and shall never again commit any such evil among you. Your eye shall not pity. It shall be life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

This Law was intended by God for Civil Court and Criminal Court Action by duly appointed authorities.

2. **PERVERSION** of the **JEWISH TEACHING** “Stick it to your neighbor...”

Taken out of the Courts and applied to Personal Relationship Interactions.

3. **PERSPECTIVE** of **JESUS** “Live a life of love...”

1. We are told in the New Testament, “Resist the Devil” (James 4, 1 Peter 5)
2. Proverbs 22:3 “A prudent man foresees the evil and hides himself.”
3. Proverbs 24:29 “Do not say, ‘I will do to him just as he has done to me.’”

Jesus Paints Four Pictures

1. “But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.”
 - a. This addresses the value of **DIGNITY**
2. “And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.”
 - a. This addresses the value of **SECURITY**
3. “And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.”
 - a. This addresses the value of **FREEDOM**
4. “Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.”
 - a. This addresses the value of **POSSESSIONS**

Where do I Place my Value and Identity?

- Do I protect my dignity more than I value my relationships?
- Am I focused on my security more than I trust in God’s power?
- Am I more concerned about my freedom than I am in God’s plan for my life?
- Are my possessions more important to me than the love from Jesus?

BIBLE READING PLAN

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Psalm 95 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Psalm 99 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Psalm 96 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Psalm 100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Psalm 97 | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Psalm 101 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Psalm 98 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Psalm 102 |

Claude Davis, Spiritual Formation Director
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