

Sermon on the Mount (Taking Revenge)

**In what way is our righteousness
to exceed that of the Scribes
and Pharisees???**

Matt. 5:20



Recap of Past Lessons

Murder: vs. (21-26)

Adultery: vs. (27-30)

Divorce: vs. (31-32)

Swearing Oaths: vs. (33-37)

(Take Revenge)

Matt. 5:38-42

Many of us want to do this-

Especially when,

Someone makes us mad

Someone wrongs us

Someone hurts us

Someone hurts one you love

VERY IRONIC

Jesus had just explained 4
things that create a spirit of;

Frustration and Anger



First,

The Traditional:

Interpretation and Application

vs. 38

“Eye for an Eye, Tooth for a Tooth”

Exodus 21:22-25

Deuteronomy 19:21

These Laws were for Civil Courts

Notice again the passages.

Deuteronomy 19:15-21

Exodus 21:22-23

Laws given to guide the Priest and Judges on Proper Punishment for crimes.

Scribes and Pharisees Interpretation

Scripture used to Justify:

Personal Retribution

They took matters into their Own Hands

(Many do the same Today)



The Law Forbid: Personal Vengeance

Consider:

Leviticus 19:18

Proverbs 20:22

Proverbs 24:29



Both Old and New Testament

Proclaimed:

Vengeance should be:

LEFT TO THE LORD,
AND GOVERNING AUTHORITIES

Romans 12:19/ 13:1-5

Jesus' Teachings

Matt. 5:38-42

Proclaims 2 Principles

1. Do not Resist an Evil Person,
vs. 39

2. React to the Evil by Doing Good,
vs. 41

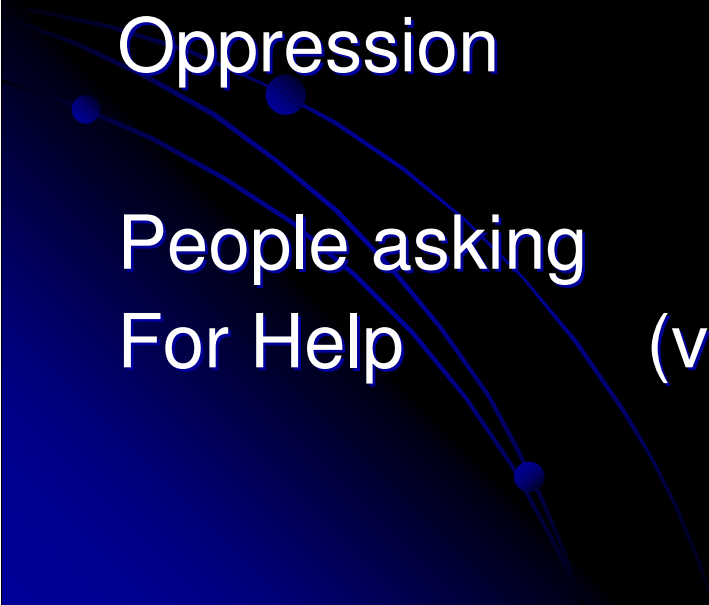
What Our Reaction to Evil should Be

Physical Abuse (vs. 39) “Turn the other cheek”

Being Sued (vs. 40) “Give more than asked”

Government (vs. 41) “Do more than what is
Oppression demanded”

People asking “Give what they ask”
For Help (vs. 42)



The Principles are the Same

Do not Resist a Person who would-

Mistreat You

OR

Try to deprive you of Possessions



Our Reaction

React in a POSITIVE MANNER:

By Demonstrating LOVE

AND

Giving to them FREELY



Is This Do-able and to be Taken Literally???

Old Testament Examples:

Joseph forgave his Brothers:

Gen. 45:4-15

David spared the Life of Saul:

1 Sam. 24:8-15

Elisha feed His Enemies:

2 Kings 6:8-23

Examples cont.

New Testament Examples

Stephen when He was stoned:

Acts 7:59-60

**Hebrew Christians who joyfully excepted the
plunder of their goods:**


Heb. 10:32-34

Jesus our Prime Example:

1 Peter 2:20-24

Are we to apply this:
Unconditionally???

Are we to decide who is
“worthy” to receive this kind
of treatment???



2 things to Remember

Jesus gives NO:

Instructions of Discretion!!!

The apostle Paul Does give instructions:

2 Thess. 3:10

This is Applied to Christians



Judging

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

Judge those in the church

Leave those outside to God



Summarize

Do not Resist an Evil Person

Respond to Evil by Doing Good



Be a Partaker of the Divine Nature

2 Peter 1:4



Do you believe that Jesus' way is Right???

If so do something about your life

Hear

Romans 10:17

Believe

John 3:16

Repent

Acts 2:38

• Confess

Matt. 10:32-33

Baptized

Acts 22:16

Live Faithfully

Revelation 2:10