

Morning Lesson

HOW TO MEET AND OVERCOME EVIL Matt. 5:38-42

INTRO:

1. How can I keep from exacting revenge on one who has hurt me?
2. How do I maintain my family honor?
3. What do I do when confronted by an evil doer?

I. THE LAW'S WAY. V. 38

- A. This is a statement that was part of the Law. **Ex. 21:24, 25; Deut. 19:15-21**
- B. Jesus does not criticize the rule when properly applied, but sets out to eliminate any need for it.

II. THE LORD'S WAY. Vs. 39-42

- A. This principle seems to urge absolute non-resistance of all evil persons. **Gal. 2:5, 11; Tit. 1:9; Heb. 4:15; 1 John 3:8; John 2:13-17; Matt. 21:12, 13; Matt. 15:1-20; Matt. 16:1-12; Mark 12:38-40**
- B. The Lord's way is accomplished by refusing to retaliate. **Matt. 5:39b; Luke 6:27-29; 1 Cor. 13:7; Matt. 5:9; John 18:22, 23; Acts 23:3**
- C. The Lord's way is accomplished by relinquishing one's right to resist. **v. 40; Ex. 22:26, 27; Acts 16:35-39; Acts 22:25-29; Acts 25:10, 11**
- D. The Lord's way is accomplished by rendering requested relief without resentment. **v. 41**
- E. The Lord's way is accomplished by readiness to respond with resources. **v. 42; James 1:27; James 2:14-17; 1 John 3:17; Matt. 25:35-45; 2 Thess. 3:10; 1 Tim. 5:8; 1 Thess. 4:11, 12; Matt. 6:2-4**

CONC:

1. In these teachings, Jesus is trying to get us to stop pampering our selfishness and to crucify it in these practical ways.