

Ep. 1007: Do We Have to "Turn the Other Cheek?"

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- 1. What is the theme of the first 16 verses in Matthew 5, known as the Sermon on the Mount? How do these verses deepen our understanding of true Christian behavior?
- 2. In Matthew 5:17-48, how does Jesus show the higher fulfillment of the Jewish law principles? What three things does he do in his reasoning?
- 3. How do we reconcile Matthew 5:38-39 with other scriptures that advise us to resist evil? What concept was Jesus trying to convey in Matthew 5:39? How do we know this? (See Matthew 5:38-39, James 4:7, Ephesians 6:13)
- 4. What was Jesus' advice to his apostles regarding persecution? What did he mean by this? What was Jesus' response when his followers cut off the ear of the slave of the high priest? What is the lesson for us in this incident? (See Matthew 10:22-23, Matthew 26:51-53)
- 5. Why does Matthew 5 specifically refer to the right eye, right hand and right cheek? How should we interpret these symbolically? What is Jesus trying to emphasize throughout all of Matthew 5? (See Matthew 5:29-30,39, Isaiah 50:6, 53:7, Luke 22:63-64)
- 6. What is the difference between complying with the "letter of the law" and abiding in the "spirit of the law"? How was the spirit of the law illustrated in Jesus' life? (See Exodus 22:26-27, Matthew 5:40-41, Matthew 27:31-32)
- 7. What is the greater spiritual lesson in "turning the other cheek?" What was Jesus really saying in Matthew 5:42, and how can we express this lesson in our own lives? (See Matthew 5:42)
- 8. Why should we turn the other cheek? What is the purpose of Christianity and the kingdom of God? (See John 18:35-36)
- 9. What should be our reaction to the inevitable conflicts that will arise when we focus our minds and hearts towards Christ? What will you do differently in conflicts in your own life? (See 1 Peter 3:8-9, 1 Peter 2:20-23)
- 10. What are some practical suggestions for living a life in which we practice turning the other cheek? What quality is necessary for us to be able to accomplish this way of life?

