



## Luke 6:27-8 *Love Your Enemies*

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### Luke 6:27-28

The ideas in this part of the sermon recorded in Luke are expanded upon in Matthew's account: Matthew 5:38-47 <sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' <sup>39</sup> But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup> And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup> If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. <sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

① → What assurances does Jesus give that when we promise to turn our cheek we'll not get hit again, or that we'll get what we want through other means? Look carefully in the Luke and Matthew texts.

② → Jesus calls us to not retaliate because that's the form of his love and the care for us taken on the cross. But the OT tells us what we can do, and even should do, in many instances, and it's different. Right?

③ → What about Leviticus 19:18? Part of it is familiar but consider the larger context.

Instead of resisting, instead of striking back, instead of suing, instead of demanding rights, Jesus invites his followers to an alternative way of life, where self denial, love of others and contentment shape our responses.

④ → Discuss how the following shapes this idea of enemy love:

Matthew 16:24

Galatians 2:20

Romans 12:3

Philippians 2:3-4