

Holding Grudges, Getting Even (Pt. 4)

Matthew 5:38-42

- I. Reject the Popular Misunderstanding of “an Eye for an Eye” (38)
- II. Follow Jesus’ Revolutionary Teaching about Personal Revenge (39-42)
 - A. The General Principle (39a)
 - B. Four Specific Examples (39b-42)
 - 1. An intentional attack on our dignity (39b)
 - 2. An intentional attack on our property (40)
 - 3. A governmental attack on our liberty (41)
 - 4. An intentional attack on our generosity (42)

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A. Four Specific Examples (39b-42)

1. An intentional attack on our dignity (39b)
2. An intentional attack on our property (40)
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4. An intentional attack on our generosity (42)
 - a. What This Does Not Teach—*"You must always give everyone what they ask from you."*
 - b. What This Does Teach

The Requirements of the Mosaic Law

1. To give no-interest or low-interest loans to the poor (Ex. 22:25; Lev. 25:37; Dt. 23:19)
2. To have a generous spirit toward all (Dt. 15:7-11; cf. Ps. 37:26; 112:5)

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4. An intentional attack on our generosity (42)
 - a. What This Does Not Teach—*"You must always give everyone what they ask from you."*
 - b. What This Does Teach
 - Be generous even toward the evil, because that's what your Father does (Lk. 6:35)
 - Be generous, because that's what your Lord commands (1 Tim. 6:17-19; 1 Jn. 3:17-18).
 - Don't respond to evil attempts to take advantage of your generosity by holding grudges or seeking revenge (Mt. 5:42).