

Heartfelt Obedience Pt. 9 (Matthew 5:38-39)

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The context of this is that Jesus is bringing clarity to the Law by exposing the hypocrisy of the religious leaders...

- In **Matthew 5:20** – *He said - ... “unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

Jesus said this because outwardly the Scribes and Pharisees looked like they followed God... but their hearts were far from Him...

- Proof of this was that the religious leaders willingly ignored God’s bigger picture of love and forgiveness...
 - ...by seeking retribution when wronged by another person.

Matthew 5:38 - *“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’*

Deuteronomy 19:21 – *“Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”*

2 Samuel 24:14 - *“Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man.”*

Matthew 5:39 – *“But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”*

John 18:36 - *“My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”*

John 15:19 - *“If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”*

James 4:7 - *“... submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”*

Romans 12:21 – “... overcome evil with good.”

Proverbs 26:4 (NLT) – “Don’t answer the foolish arguments of fools, or you will become as foolish as they are.”

1 Peter 2:23 – “who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;”

Genesis 50:20 – “.... you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good...”

John 15:5 - “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”