

Heartfelt Obedience Pt.10

Matthew 5:40-42

Pastor Nathan Pittman

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

Matthew 5:20 - *"...unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven."*

He 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**

They believed that the right thing to do was to seek revenge and retaliation, this was the only way to deal with an evil person

- but Jesus brings clarity to the Law by emphasizing love instead of revenge.
 - ...He said to the crowd in...

Matthew 5:39 - *"But I tell you not to resist an evil person..."*

First Example – KEEP AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE (v.40)

"It's only candy."

When we live this way... we demonstrate power that makes it possible for God to display His goodness...

- ...even in the face of people who have evil intentions.

Second Example – GO THE EXTRA MILE – (v.41-42)

Matthew 5:41 - *“And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.”*

Romans 12:20-21 - *“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”*

How do we apply this tomorrow morning?

John 3:16 - *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*