

Love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48)

Introduction

- What is Euripides' play "Medea" all about?
- What is Jesus going to tell us about revenge in our passage?
- What is the Sermon on the Mount all about?
- What is Jesus doing in the verses we are looking at the moment?

i Loving those who do not treat you well (v38-43)

- Give an example of an Old Testament passage which lies behind v38.
- In what context did verses like those apply?
- What happens if you take those verses out of a legal context?
- What does Jesus tell us to do?
- What are Jesus' three illustrations about in...
 - v39?
 - v40?
 - v41?
- And what does v42 add?
- Is this easy or tough?
- Does all this mean that Christians should never protest?
- What are you to do next time you are personally wronged?

ii Loving those who do not love you (v43-47)

- Give an example of an Old Testament passage which lies behind the first part of Jesus' quotation in v43.
- Does the second half of his quotation appear anywhere in the Old Testament?
- What does Jesus want us to do for our enemies in v44?
- Is this easy or tough?
- Whose example does Jesus point us to in v45 in the first bit of help he gives us to obey his instructions here?
- Why is he a great example?
- What doctrine does v45 express?
- How does this help us to love our enemies?
- What is the second piece of help Jesus gives us in v46-47?
- What should our lifestyles be like?
- What might the Lord do if we are like this?

Conclusion

- What part does v48 play in Matthew 5?
- What does the Lord Jesus require of us?
- Is this easy or tough?
- What does this commandment give us?
- What hope do we have?
- What do you need to do if you are not a Christian?