

Dealing with Demanding People - *Luke 6:27-30*

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Intro

Hermeneutics has a lot to do with living life rightside up.

With the historical context in mind,

scriptural context *v22*: When people hate you because of my name.

How do I respond to those people who demand of me because of Christ?

With an Unnatural Love

Luke 6:27

“to you who hear” or “to you who want to hear”
or “to you who are hearing”

Respond to each situation the way Christ wants you to

“love” agape
present active tense

Agape was rarely used outside of the Bible.

“enemies” “echthros”
hostile ones

It’s hard to understand how revolutionary this command was.

In the pagan world they were ruthless in their retaliation! If you stole something they cut your hand off.

So when Jesus says this it was very different from modern practice.

Matthew 4:43

Leviticus 19:18

The Jews used this verse and redefined who their neighbor was (they changed it to people they liked)

There is no way that we can love our enemy without the inner filling of the Holy Spirit.

With With Unatural Reactions

Luke 6:29

Context: that of being persecuted because of the name (our allegiance) of Christ

This doesn't mean:

- you shouldn't defend yourself physically
- you shouldn't own a weapon for protection

Luke 22:35

What's happening in this passage? Jesus is saying, from this point forward I want you to be careful! In this case Jesus wasn't saying to "turn the other cheek"

John 18:19

Jesus here questions the reason of him being struck. He isn't rolling over and "turning the other cheek"

If you go through Acts you'll see many cases where Paul was treated falsely. But Paul demanded to be treated fairly! He held his attackers accountable for their actions.

In light of these passages

"cheek" "pareia"

word for cheek in the greek.

not used in this passage.

"cheek" "siagona"

literally "jaw"

can refer to an insult

also refers to a full fledged punch in the face

One of the ways people persecuted the Christians was they took another person's cloak - (it would snow in the winter).

Romans 12:17-21

When you don't respond with vengeance.

2 things this passage is talking about

1. you will respond in a positive way
2. "burning coals" - giving a bowl of coals for the use of matches (cause they didn't have matches back then)

This is talking about GRACE!!!

Luke 6:30

With Unnatural words

Luke 6:28

1. bless
2. pray

“**mistreat**” “*eperazo*”
despitefully use you
“**Bless**” to speak well of
“*eulegetos*”

What do you pray about? That they would see Christ in your life and be drawn to him.

Application

1. We are God’s primary instrument to this world
2. You must be willing to be a selfless instrument of God
3. Agape can only be produced by Christ reigning in your life and the filling of the H.S

All the Beast needed was for someone to love him. It wasn’t until Beauty kissed the Beast that he changed and became a prince. This is the picture of a person being restored.