

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

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Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
GOING THE EXTRA MILE
Bible Text: Matthew 5:38–42

Prayer

Glorious all infinite Father ,we bow down before your Word which is You ,please help us to understand You in Jesus Christ's name

Introduction

Today's study is a very sensitive one that will take only those who are ready to submit totally to God to accept. This is for those who have by the reason of their senses discern what is right or wrong, just as it is written in Hebrews 5:14 (KJV): "**But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**"

Bible text:Matthew 5:38-42 NKJV

[38] “**You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ [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.**

[40] **If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.**

[41] **And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.**
[42] **Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.**

Study

Praise the Lord, it is the Lord Jesus Christ speaking here. So, Jesus Christ was on the mount of Olives. After He finished teaching the Beatitudes — **“Blessed are this, blessed are that's,**

bleased are this” — the Lord Jesus Christ moved ahead in His teaching. And He began to speak, and He said:

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.” (**Matthew 5:38, KJV**). In the Old Testament, that was part of what the law said. That is, it was said in the Old Testament by their ancestors — the ancestors of the Israelites — that they should take an eye in exchange for an eye and a tooth in exchange for a tooth. That is, if a person cut off the hand of somebody, the right punishment for the person who cut the hand of another was for that person’s hand also to be cut off.

If a person decides to “**kill another person**,” it meant that the person that killed another person would also be killed. So, any offense committed must be paid back in the same coin it was committed. Now, Jesus knew that the Israelites — those people who were listening to Him — were already familiar with that saying. So that’s why Jesus said, “**Ye have heard... your ancestors have been taught that an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.**” But look at what Jesus Christ now said: “**But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.**” (**Matthew 5:39, KJV**)

Are we following?

Can you see that? He says, if anybody slaps you — that is, if somebody removes your eyes now, does that mean that you would let the person remove the second eye? No. That’s not what the Lord is saying there. What the Lord is simply saying is this: **do not retaliate**. Move away. There are those people who are clearly the children of darkness, that when they slap you and you quietly turn the other cheek to them, they’ll still slap the other side. Those people are children of Satan — you know that these souls do not have conscience. So the Lord Jesus Christ is not saying that when they slap you, you should slap the person back.

That's not what He's saying. And He's not saying that when they slap you, you should literally turn the other cheek for the person to slap you. **It is a figurative expression.** So the Lord is saying that when they slap you, just move away. Don't retaliate. Instead of saying, **"An eye for an eye,"** it is better to let it be. We have seen cases where a person is being slapped, and the person just said, **"Thank you,"** and walked away. And people say, **"Hey! You must be a fool. Why would you let someone slap you like that and you don't slap back? Oh, it cannot be me. If it was me, once he slapped me one, I would have given him ten."**

That is the character of those people who do not even know God. Those are people who are saying, **"A tooth for a tooth, an eye for an eye."** So the Lord is telling us today that we cannot choose to be like this set of people — that we must be different. We must not retaliate. You see, this aspect of retaliation, if we follow it carefully, you will see that the Lord is trying to save us even from problems. We've heard of the case of someone that slapped a person or beat a person, and then, when the person retaliated, the one who started the fight died, and the retaliator was arrested. You don't know the person on whom the mark of death has been placed upon.

That's why I used to pity those who fight. Like a video I saw some days ago that someone showed me: two people were fighting. And while they were fighting, one of them carried a big stone and hit it on the head of the other person. And that other person fell down instantly, began to gasp for breath, and died. **That is the repercussion of retaliation.**

If you are following, kindly say I will not retaliate

So when Jesus is saying, **"Go the second mile,"** it means that you should not retaliate. Do not struggle. Look at what Jesus

Christ said: “But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” (Matthew 5:39, KJV). What the Lord is saying is that when an evil person does something evil to you, don’t begin to fight the person. No. You know that this person is evil. We cannot expect more than that. That is one way we think as children of God: you cannot expect everybody on earth to be good to you, because not everybody is saved. As a matter of fact, anybody that is not a child of God, that is not born again, cannot behave rightly.

It’s just like you expecting a mad man to have a clear conversation with you. It is something that is not possible. Somebody who has been mad for years — do you expect that person to put on shoes and dress moderately? It’s not possible. Why? Because something is wrong in that person's upstairs. So you cannot expect somebody who is a child of the devil to do something good. Yes. You cannot get a good fruit from a bad tree. No. It’s not possible. So that is why you must not begin to retaliate. No. We must not begin to take to heart the things that evil people do to us, because they cannot do good. **It’s not possible.** It is not in their character. It’s not in the character of the devil to do good.

If the devil tries to do something good, or what he does looks like good, you should know that behind it there is evil. So Jesus says: “But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” (Matthew 5:39, KJV)

Are you still with me?

My father once shared a remarkable experience from many years ago. He said that one day, while walking along the road, a man he had never seen before suddenly approached him. Without saying

a word, without any quarrel or provocation, the man walked up to him and slapped him hard across the face. He was stunned. He stood there, silent and calm, looking at the man in disbelief. He didn't speak, and he didn't retaliate. After a brief moment, the man walked a short distance away. But then, unexpectedly, he turned back, walked up to my father again, and began to plead with him. Now imagine — assuming he had slapped that man back, it is possible they had finished that man's work in the kingdom of darkness.

Let me say something that some of you may not know now. The thing is this: in the kingdom of darkness, they usually finish some things — some works — in the kingdom of darkness that need physical manifestation. And it will need somebody to activate what the kingdom of darkness has finished. For example, somebody might have been killed in the spiritual realm, in the witchcraft coven. Now, for that death to manifest physically, it needs the activation of somebody or something. So, assuming the man that slapped him had already been killed in the realm of the spirit, then a simple push — just mistakenly pushing him — could make the man fall down and die. This is what many people don't know. People who fight, who retaliate — this is what they don't know.

They will just find themselves in trouble. And you never wonder, why only push him? it is because it's a concluded work. May it not be our portion in Jesus' name. I say, it will not be our portion in the name of Jesus. So, Jesus is now teaching us. He said, don't resist an evil person. Just leave them alone and go your way.

Look at what He said: “**And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.**” (**Matthew 5:40, KJV**) If anyone wants to sue you — that is, if there is anybody that wants to take you to court to sue you for your shirt

— He said, give him your coat also. What is He saying? He is saying that you don't have to start struggling to fight over little things. So, as children of God, when you see that an issue is coming up, and that issue will be one that will be taking you to court, and it's not something that is relevant — something that you know you can just look over — just look over it. You don't need to start struggling, saying, **“I will fight! In this one, we will finish it. Fight to finish!”** You don't need that.

We don't, as children of God, begin to fight for our rights every time, saying, **“I want to fight for my rights, I want to fight for my rights, I want to fight for my rights.”** No. There are some matters, there are some cases that we just have to overlook so we can make peace. There are matters that we just need to overlook so that there will not be a problem. So we should learn to overlook some little, little things — things that do not matter, things that do not really count. We should overlook them.

I will not say that going to court is a sin. I am not saying that going to court is a sin because there are some issues that will require the government to address. There are some issues, for example, if it has to do with life and death, then the government needs to address it. But when there are issues that you can just overlook, it is better we overlook them. Now it says, don't resist violence: **“But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” (Matthew 5:39, KJV).** If you are smitten on one cheek, turn the other cheek. If you are taken to court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat also.

“And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain” (Matthew 5:41, KJV). During the time of Jesus, Roman soldiers were permitted by law to compel civilians or bystanders to carry their military gear for one mile. Jesus used this example figuratively, teaching that if anyone in authority forces you to

assist, do not resist them. Instead, He said, carry the load for two miles. In other words, when faced with situations where compliance is lawful and not sinful, do not struggle unnecessarily.

This is the character of a true child of God. Instead of reacting with anger or rebellion, Jesus encourages us to go the extra mile. Not to please men in sinful matters, but to maintain peace where obedience does not compromise righteousness. Sometimes, going beyond what is required prevents strife and creates opportunities for the light of Christ to shine through us. The Lord calls us to exercise patience, humility, and wisdom in such matters. Furthermore, Jesus said, **“Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away” (Matthew 5:42, KJV).**

This teaching reminds us not to be stingy or selfish but to cultivate a generous heart. When someone asks and it is within our capacity, we should give. We cannot give what we do not have, but whatever is within our means should be shared cheerfully. True generosity flows from a heart that understands that everything we possess ultimately comes from God. In all of this, the Lord is teaching us not to seek revenge and not to retaliate. We are called to live by the principle of letting things go. When people offend us or take advantage of us, we should not allow bitterness or anger to control us. This does not mean we intentionally expose ourselves to fraud or abuse, but when certain wrongs happen unexpectedly, we must choose peace over endless quarrels.

Beloved, we live in a world where many are constantly seeking ways to exploit or cheat others. Yet, as followers of Christ, our response must be different. When cheated or treated unfairly, do not spend your energy fighting endlessly. Learn to let go, trusting

God to be your defender and rewarder. This is the heart of Jesus' teaching—living above offense, walking in peace, and reflecting His character in our daily interactions. Jesus Christ is telling us that we should not fight, and we should not cause trouble. **“And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain” (Matthew 5:41 KJV)**. If anyone forces us to go one mile, the Lord says we should go with him two miles. I pray the Lord Almighty will give us more understanding of His Word, in Jesus' name. Amen. If anyone slaps us on one cheek, we should turn the other—that means we should not retaliate against insignificant insults.

Sometimes, your ability to endure quietly earns you respect. I remember a time when a young teenage girl wore a very short and seductive skirt to church. I called her aside and corrected her lovingly. She went and told her mother, and the woman came angrily, shouting at me as if she wanted to fight. I remained calm and said nothing until she left. Later, a brother came to me and said, **“Ah! You are gentle! If it were me, I would have slapped that woman!”** I simply smiled because, as the Bible says, **“Wisdom is justified of her children” (Matthew 11:19 KJV)**. Beloved, when we follow the teachings of Christ, people will respect us. There is dignity in self-control. We must pray for grace to ignore insignificant insults so that we will not lose our self-respect, dignity, and honor.

Say: **“Father, every spirit that retaliates in my life, every spirit that loves retaliation, Father, remove it from my life in the name of Jesus.”**

Say: **“Father, release Your Holy Ghost into my heart. Release Your Holy Ghost into my life to lead me in my ways, to guide**

me in all I do, that I will not be controlled by my flesh, but I will be controlled by Your Spirit, in the name of Jesus.”

Declare: “Lord Jesus, release the Holy Ghost into my life to control me and to help me, so that when people do evil to me, I will not be carried away by my flesh. I refuse to display anger and regret it later. Holy Spirit, guide me. Father, let Your Spirit lead me in the name of Jesus. Blessed be Your holy name. In Jesus Christ’s mighty name we pray. Amen.”

Say: “Father, help me to take insults without retaliation. Help me to remain calm so I can maintain my dignity.”

Pray again: “Lord Jesus, help me. I don’t want the spirit of retaliation in my life. Help me to ignore insignificant insults so I will not lose my self-respect, dignity, and honor, in the name of Jesus.”

Say: “Father, as I go today, let Your light go before me. Let me carry Your light wherever I go. Let people see You in me—in the way I talk, in the way I listen, in the way I act, and in every way, in the name of Jesus.”

Thank You, everlasting Father. In Jesus Christ’s mighty name, we pray. Amen.

This is the end of this teaching, have a nice day

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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