



Lesson 59: A Soft Answer Turns Away Wrath 1 Samuel 25:20-35

Read Matthew 5:38-48. According to this passage, what should be our attitude toward those who seek to do us harm?

Should we repay in kind?

Who are we to love and pray for?

Read Luke 14:12-14. Why would Jesus tell the people not to invite those who have means to a dinner or banquet?

Does Jesus not like rich people?

Why does Jesus encourage them to invite those who cannot repay them?

What heart issue is Jesus pointing to here?

Read 1 Peter 3:8-9.

What qualities are we to have?

What are we to repay evil with? Why?

What blessing is this talking about?

Look up the definition of “gift”. Does a gift come with an expectation?

Now look up the definition of “give”. Is there an expectation of reciprocation with that?

When we give of our time, talent and resources, should we give with an expectation of a reward, or should we give with a desire simply to provide someone else with something they lack or something that will bring them joy?

As you spend time with God today, consider these verses above. Are you repaying evil for evil or insult for insult?

Are you doing good things for others (like inviting them over for dinner) so you can be repaid, keeping some sort of a scorecard of who has done more for whom?

If you are upset when you give in some way to someone else and receive nothing in return—even a thank you—consider whether you might be giving for your own ends or if you are giving to bless them. Ask God to help you to be more aware of the motives of your own heart and to truly give without expectation of repayment, simply because you are able to bless someone else by giving. Examine your heart and, the next time you are upset at someone's ungrateful attitude when you do give of yourself, consider whether you were giving to glorify God, or to glorify yourself.