

# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those

Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12



Matthew 5:43-48

*"Love Your Enemies"*

*The Hardest Command? -*

*Runs Against Natural Inclinations! -*

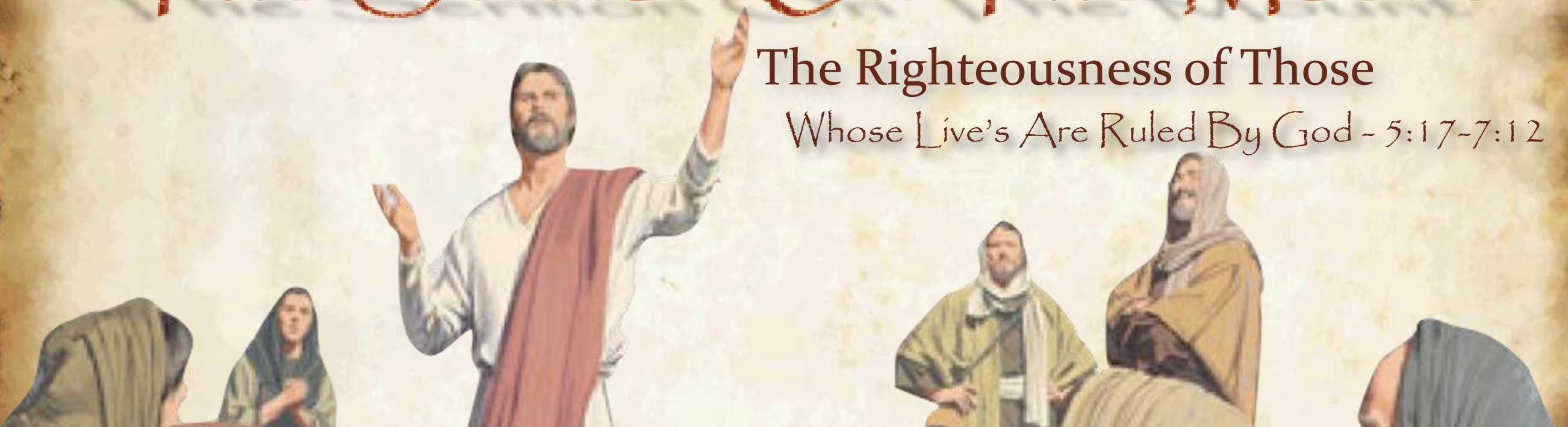
*Being Like Our Heavenly Father! -*



# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those

Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12



*Having dealt with the subjects of "murder" [hatred] (21-26), "adultery" [lust] (27-30), "Divorce" [treachery] (31,32) "Oaths" - [dishonesty] (33-37), "Revenge" - [personal retribution] (38-42)*

*Jesus continues to emphasize the righteousness demanded of citizens in His kingdom by demanding we bless, do good, and pray for our enemies. (43-48)*

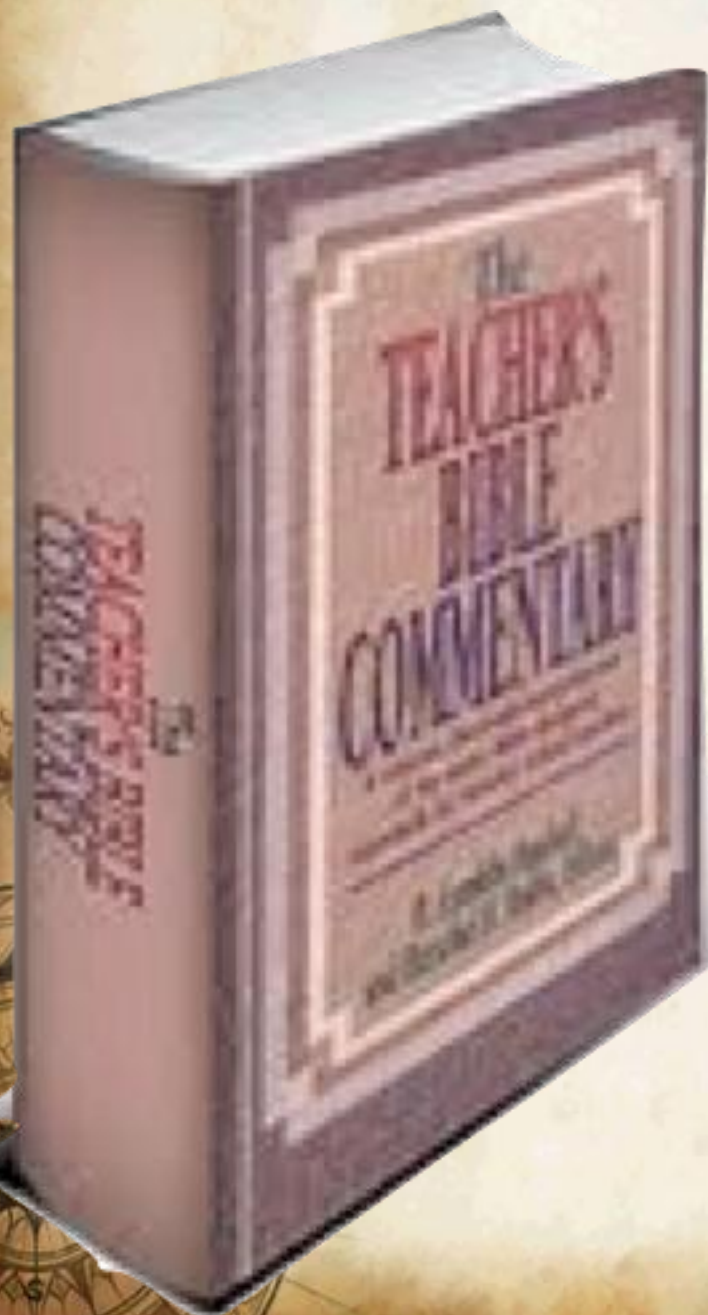


# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those  
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-  
7:12

**Truth for today.**—Nothing is needed more today than the challenge of this Sermon. People are confused by changing moral standards, shocking conduct on the part of young and old, and the relativism of all values. Here Jesus gives us an absolute standard of life and moral conduct. No matter how far we miss the mark, we know where the goal is. It is the certain assurance that the Christian disciple needs in this troubled world.

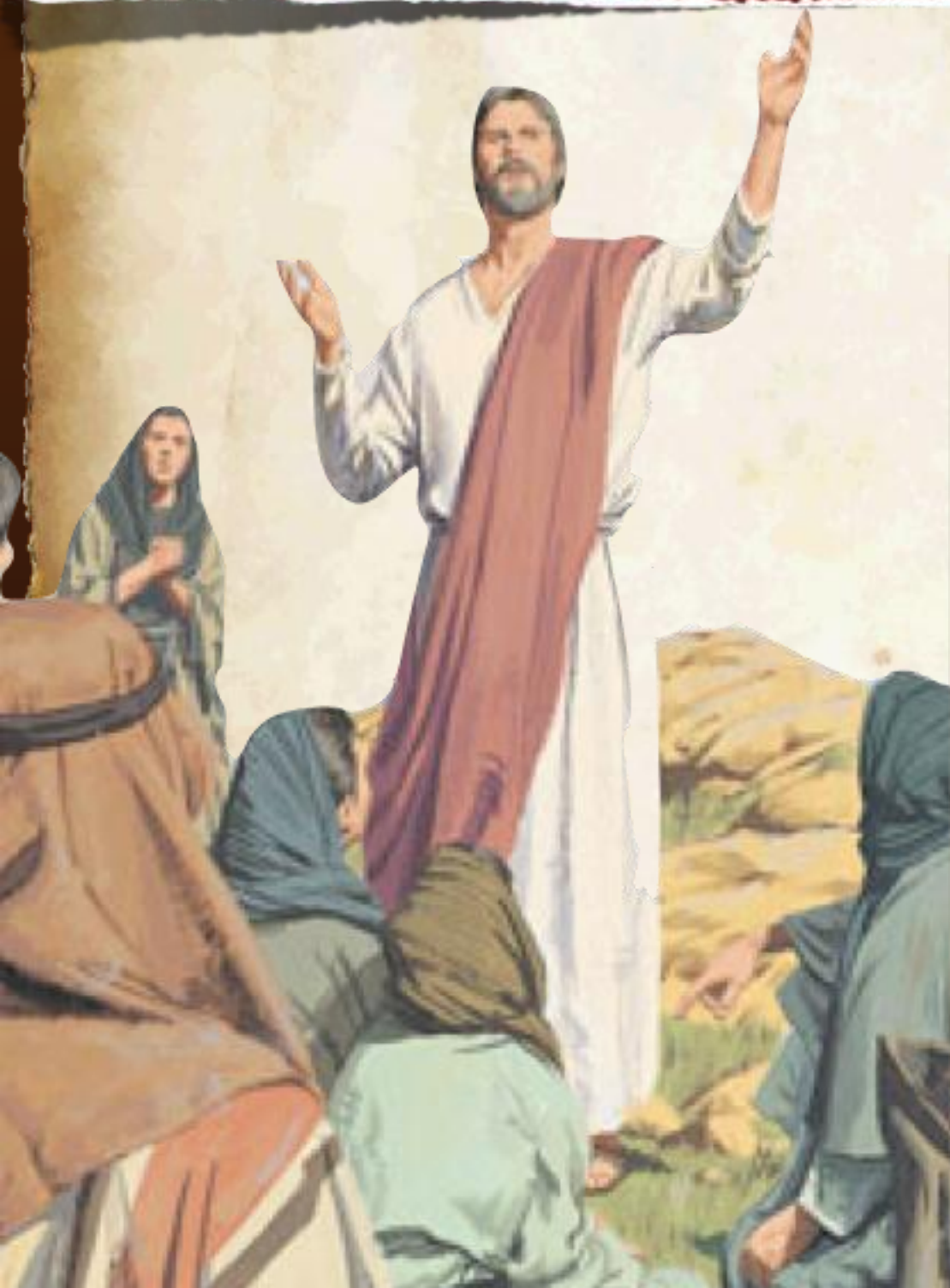
*The teacher's Bible commentary. 1972 (F. H. Paschall & H. H. Hobbs, Ed.). Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers.*





# The Sermon On The Mount

## *We Will Have Enemies!*



- ✦ **Those to whom Jesus spoke had enemies –**
- ✦ **Jesus had enemies –**
- ✦ **So will we – 2 Tim. 3:12**
  - ✦ Our wrongs – Mat. 5:23,24
  - ✦ Their envy – Mat. 27:18
  - ✦ Their sin – Mat. 18:15-17
  - ✦ Disagreements – Acts 15:36-41



# The Sermon On The Mount

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## **Matthew 5:43-48 (NKJV)**

<sup>43</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘*You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.*’ <sup>44</sup> But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.



# The Sermon On The Mount

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## **Matthew 5:43-48 (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? <sup>48</sup> Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



# The Sermon On The Mount

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*You have heard that it was said,*



**Jesus did not set himself against the law of Moses, but against the false and pernicious interpretations of the law prevalent in his time.**

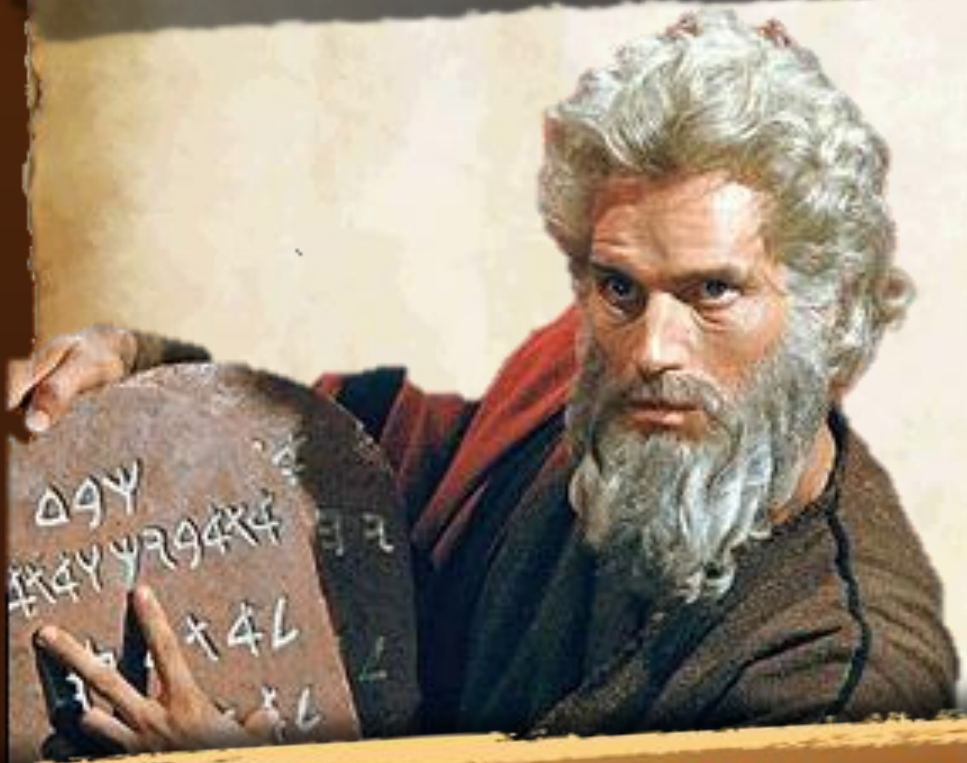
- 21 'You shall not **murder**, . . .
- 27 'You shall not commit **adultery**.  
. . .
- 31 'Whoever **divorces** his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' . . .
- 33 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your **oaths** to the Lord.' . . .
- 38 'An **eye** for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' . . .
- 43 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' . . .



# The Sermon On The Mount

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*Law of Moses Governing Treatment of Enemies -*



**Matthew 5:38 (NKJV)**

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

## **Kindness To Be Shown To Enemies**

Exodus 23:4-5 (NKJV)

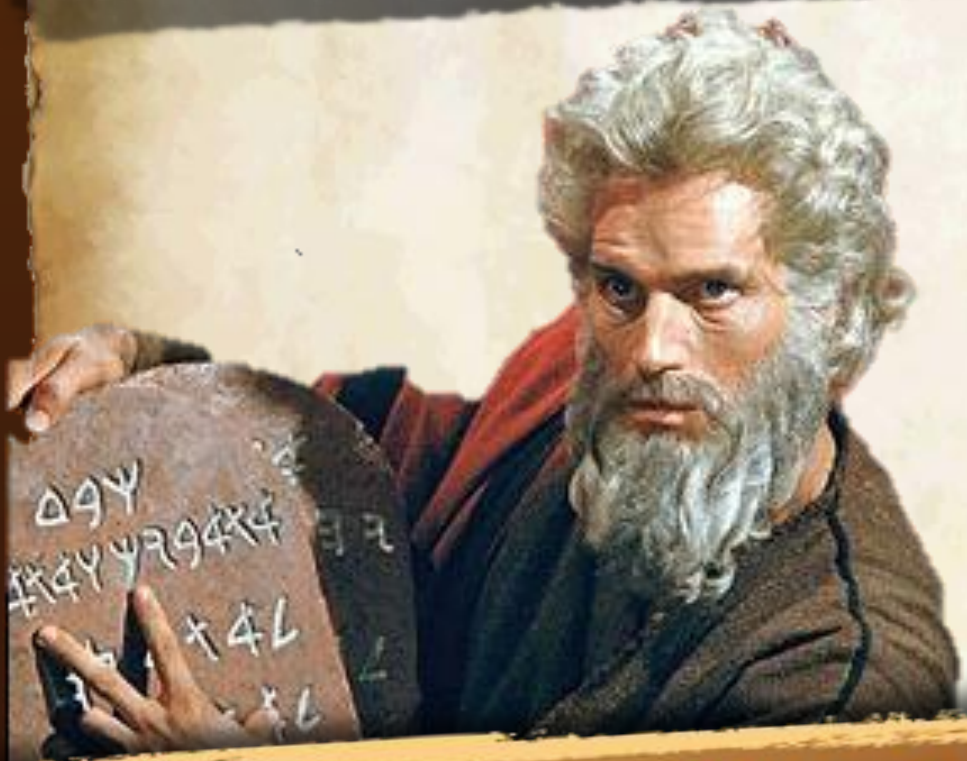
<sup>4</sup> "If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall surely bring it back to him again. <sup>5</sup> If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden, and you would refrain from helping it, you shall surely help him with it.



# The Sermon On The Mount

9

*Law of Moses Governing Treatment of Enemies -*



**Matthew 5:38 (NKJV)**

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

## Kindness To Be Shown To Enemies

Proverbs 25:21-22 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup> If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

<sup>22</sup> For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the Lord will reward you. -

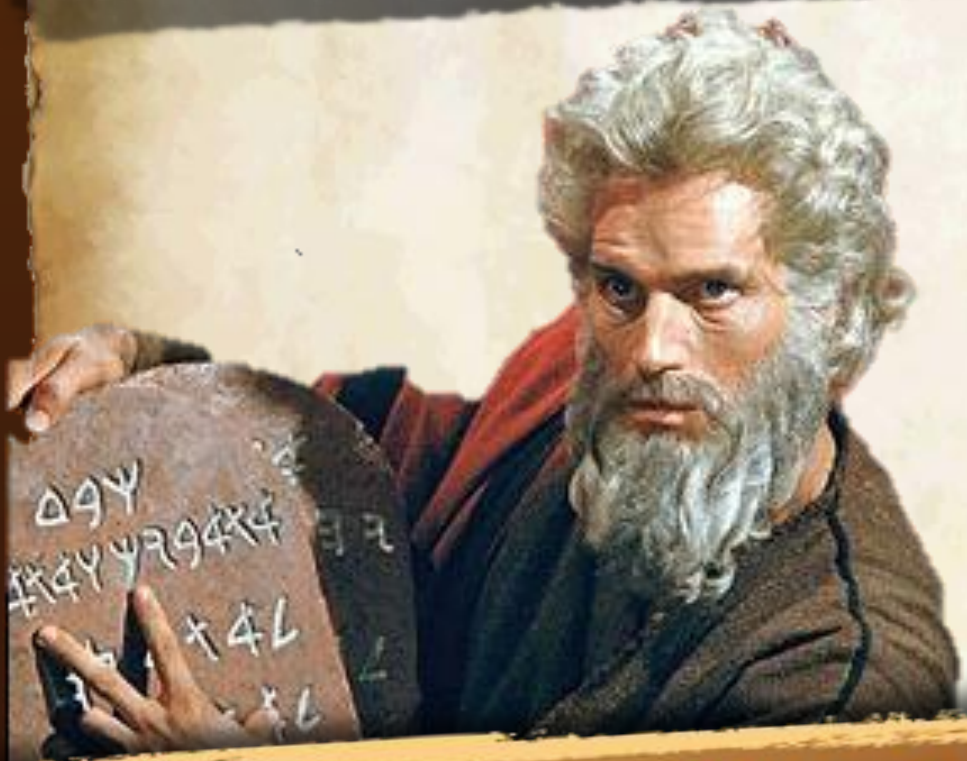
(cf. Romans 12:20)



# The Sermon On The Mount

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*Law of Moses Governing Treatment of Enemies -*



**Matthew 5:38 (NKJV)**

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

## **Kindness To Be Shown To Enemies**

Leviticus 19:18 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: *I am the Lord.*

*(cf Luke 10:29)*



# The Sermon On The Mount

*The "Traditional Interpretation And Application"...  
Of God's Law Treatment of Enemies - (38)*



**Matthew 5:43 (NKJV)**

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

- ✳ This phrase "hate your enemy" is not in Lev. 19:18, or anywhere else in the Old Testament, but was a rabbinical inference.
- ✳ The Jews were taught to "hate" Samaritans and Gentiles. (Jonah; John 4:9; Acts 10,11)



# The Sermon On The Mount

*The "Traditional Interpretation And Application"...  
Of God's Law Treatment of Enemies - (38)*



**Matthew 5:43 (NKJV)**

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

- ✳ The rabbis justified their attitude to Gentiles on the basis of passages in the OT whose meanings were misapplied.
- God's command that the inhabitants of Canaan be exterminated - (Deut. 20:16-18)
- The imprecatory Psalms - (Ps. 109; 139:21,22)
- ✳ Job understood it was a sin to rejoice over the calamity of your enemy - Job 31:29,30



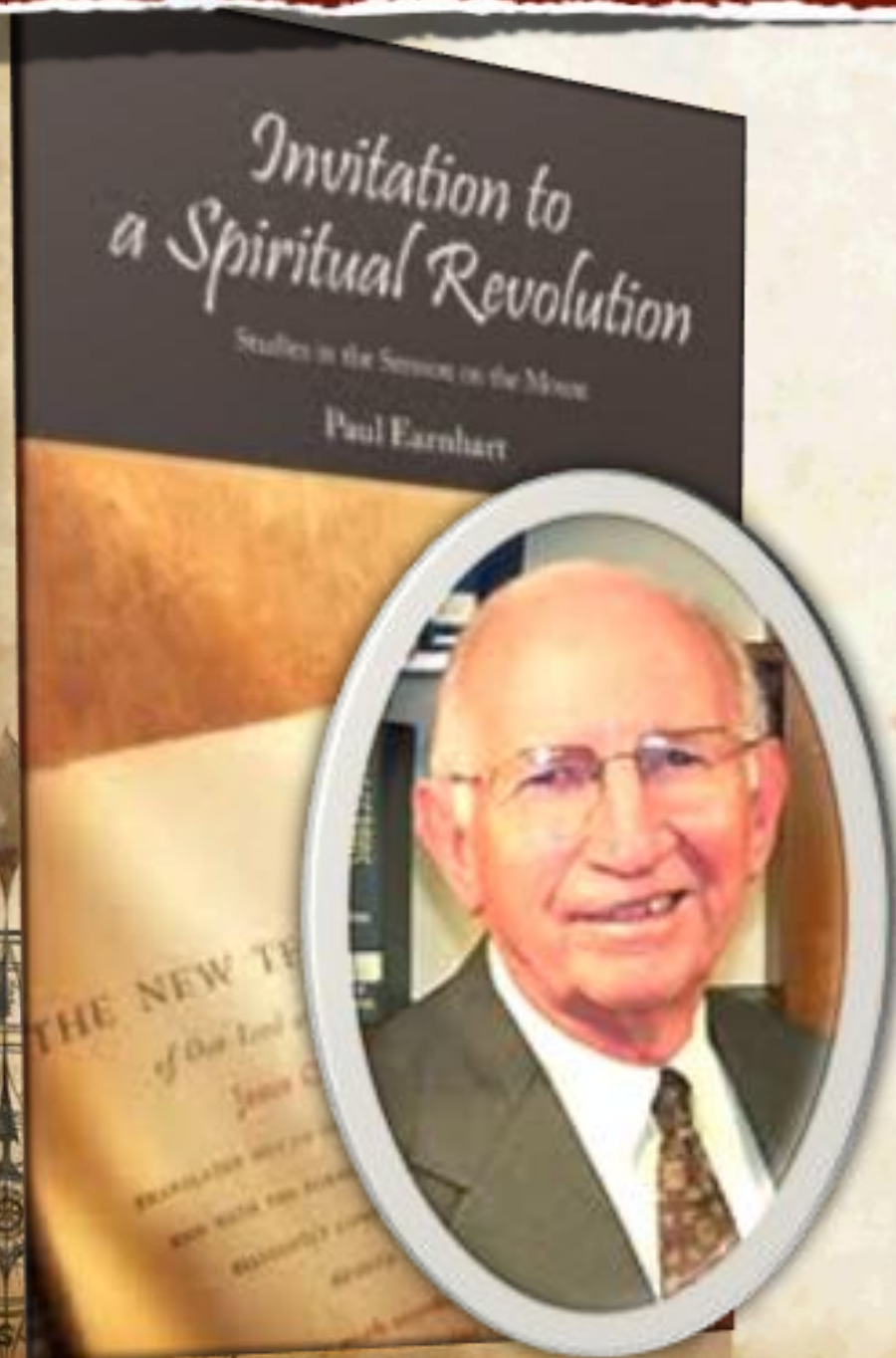
# The Sermon On The Mount

13

*The "Traditional Interpretation And Application"...  
Of God's Law Treatment of Enemies - (38)*

“The Pharisees, with their separatist fervor, were not ignorant of the Law’s demand that the sons of the covenant were to love their neighbor as themselves, (Lev 19:18), but they understood that obligation to end at the borders of Israel. There were plenty to hate beyond the pale, and many in the nation held that it was not only their privilege, but their obligation to do so.”

*[Paul Earnhart, Invitation To A spiritual Revolution; pages 58,59]*



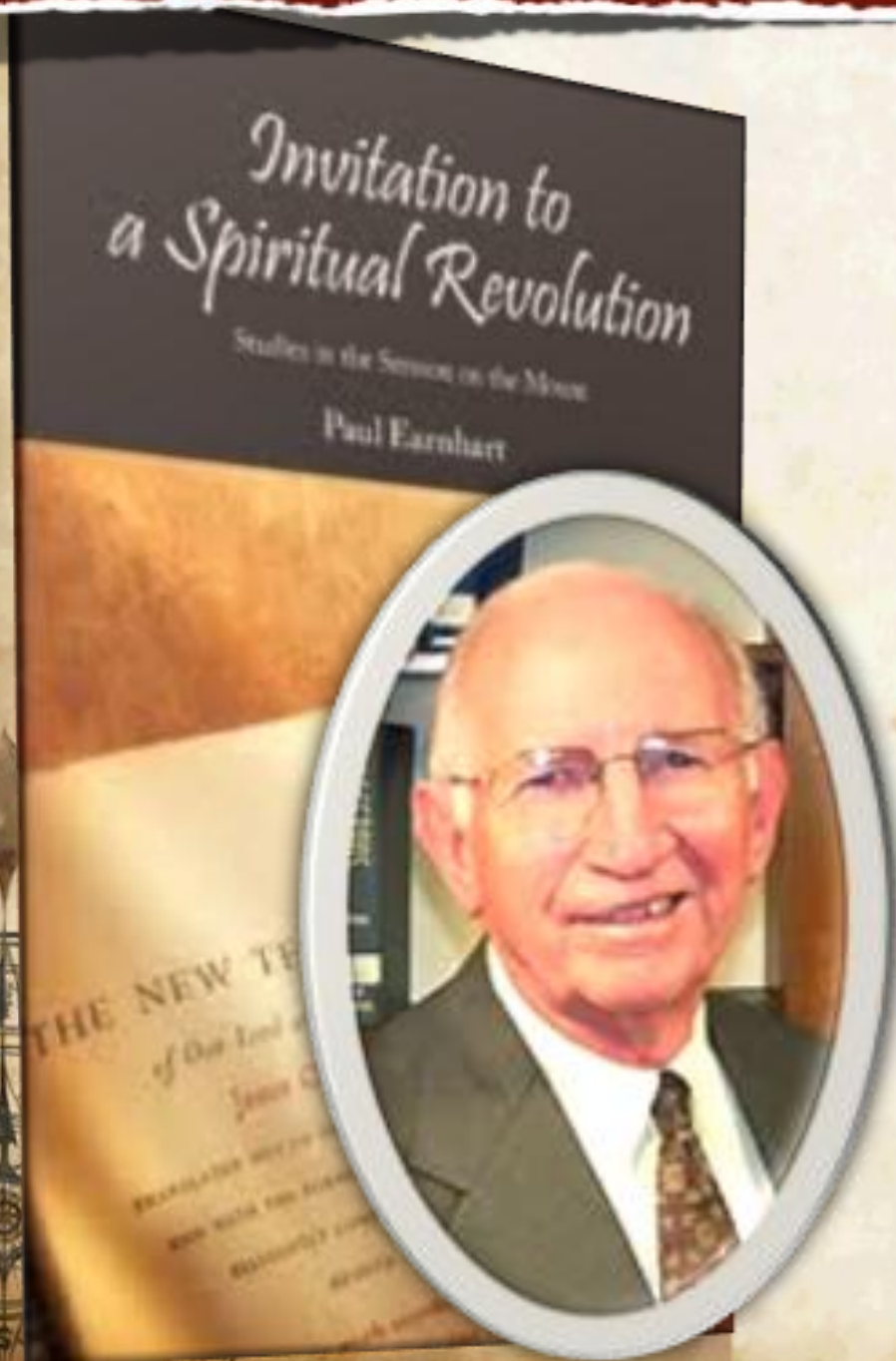


# The Sermon On The Mount

*The "Traditional Interpretation And Application"...  
Of God's Law Treatment of Enemies - (38)*

“The fact that the Pharisees were aware of the command to love, but floundered on the definition of “neighbor” is evidenced by the conversation with a certain lawyer, (Luke 10:25-29). They knew the formula but was yet to make a proper application.”

*[Paul Earnhart, Invitation To A spiritual Revolution; page 59]*





# The Sermon On The Mount

15

*"But I say to you, love your enemies, . . ."*



## **Matthew 5:44 (NKJV)**

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

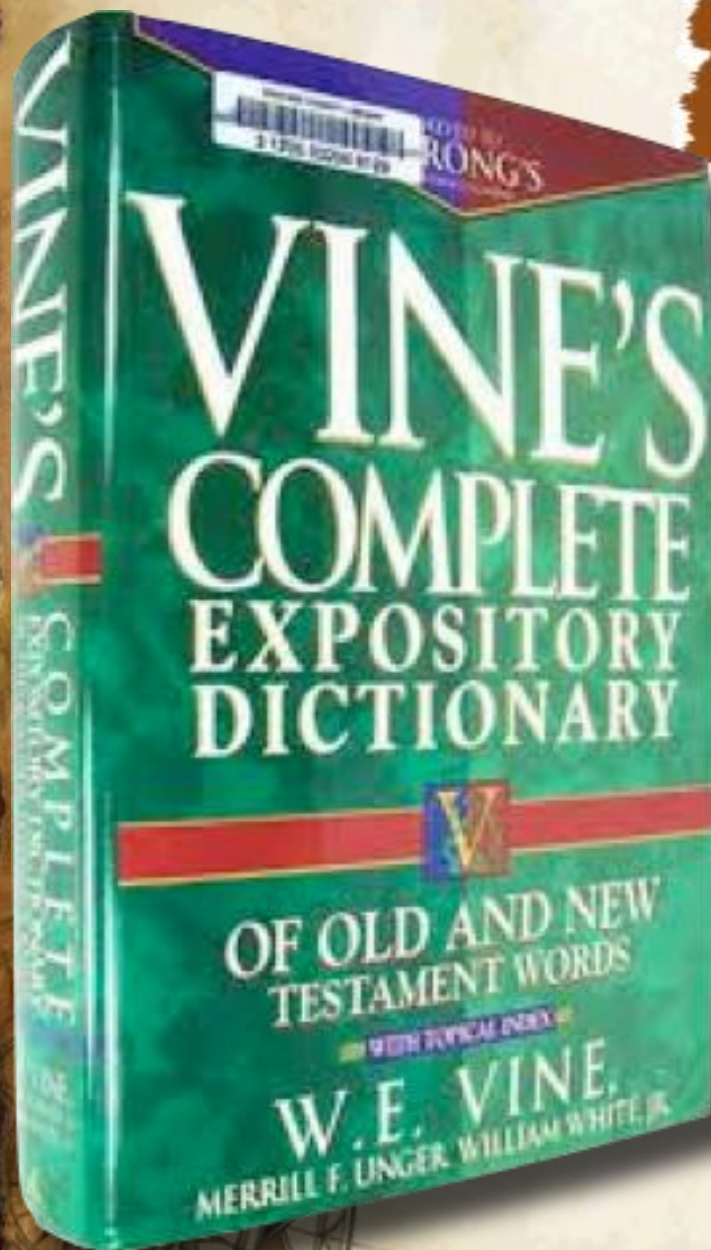
- ✳ **With every advancing sentence since verse 21- Jesus takes an ever larger bite out of the human ego . . .**
- ✳ Jesus, for the first time in this sermon, mentions the word which sums up the underlying principle of his message - LOVE.
- ✳ He now enjoins what this principle demands of us positively - specifically towards those we would naturally find it most difficult.



# The Sermon On The Mount

*"But I say to you, love your enemies, . . ."*

**Love - ἀγαπάω - agapaō**



"Christian love, whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom some affinity is discovered. Love seeks the welfare of all, Rom. 15:2, and works no ill to any, Rom. 13:8-10; love seeks opportunity to do good to 'all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith,' Gal. 6:10. See further 1 Cor 13 and Co 3:12-14."

[\* From Notes on Thessalonians, by Hogg and Vine, p. 105.] - Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.



# The Sermon On The Mount

17

*“But I say to you, love your enemies, . . .”*

**Love** - ἀγαπάω - agapaō

“to love,” to be full of good-will and exhibit the same: (*Luke 7:47; 1 John 4:7f*); with the accusative of the person, “to have a preference for, wish well to, regard the welfare of”: (*Matthew 5:43ff*)

Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament.

JOSEPH THAYER

Greek-English  
Lexicon of the  
New Testament



# The Sermon On The Mount

*"But I say to you, love your enemies, ..."*

**Love** - ἀγαπάω - agapaō



**Matthew 5:44 (NKJV)**

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

- ✳ **Love is more than a feeling -**
- ✳ **Seeks eternal good of others**
- ✳ **Love is active -**



# The Sermon On The Mount

19

*"But I say to you, love your enemies, . . ."*

**Love** - ἀγαπάω - agapaō



**Matthew 5:44 (NKJV)**

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

- ✳ **"Love"** - (i.e., show "active good will" towards them - Luke 10:25-37)
- ✳ **"Bless"** - (i.e., to speak well of - but more than speech - 1 Cor. 4:12,14)
- ✳ **"Do good"** - (i.e., treat them kindly - more than "don't hurt them" - or do nothing - cf. Rom 12:20,21)
- ✳ **"Pray"** - (we are to pray *FOR* them, not just about them - pray for their well-being - Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60)



# The Sermon On The Mount

20

*"That you may be the sons of your Father in heaven,"*



**Matthew 5:45 (NKJV)**

that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

**DEMONSTRATING OURSELVES  
TO BE TRULY HIS CHILDREN!**

◆ **We serve a loving, merciful, & benevolent God –**

- ✳ Physical blessings - (Lk 6:35-36; Acts 14:17; 17)
- ✳ While we were His enemies - (Romans 5:8,10; 1 John 4:9,10)
- ✳ Manifested most clearly in the sacrifice of Christ - (Jn 3:16; Eph. 4:32-5:2; Phil 2:5-10)



# The Sermon On The Mount

*"That you may be the sons of your Father in heaven,"*



**Matthew 5:45 (NKJV)**

that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

**DEMONSTRATING OURSELVES  
TO BE TRULY HIS CHILDREN!**

◆ **We serve a loving, merciful, & benevolent God –**

- ✳ We must imitate Him - (Lk 6:35-36; Eph 5:1)
- ✳ Therefore, if we are truly His children, we will be loving, merciful & benevolent people – (Eph 4:32; 5:2; Col. 3:12-14; 1 John 4:7-20)



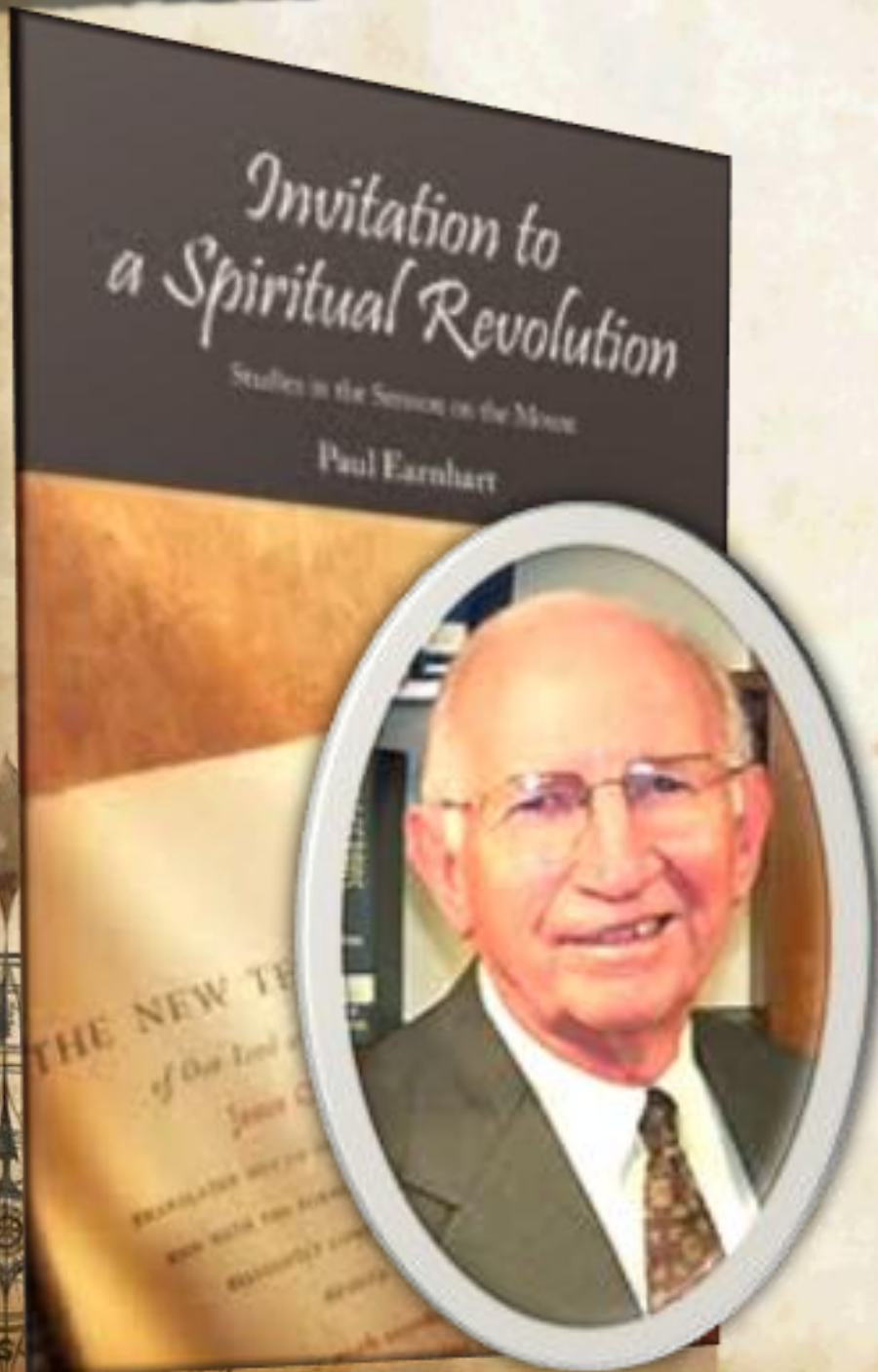
# The Sermon On The Mount

22

*"That you may be the sons of your Father in heaven,"*

"The 'love' of the kingdom is extraordinary, not merely in intensity, but in kind. It is love of a different and higher order. . . . How, we ask, can we feel a warm affection for those who are doing their dead level best to destroy us? Our enemies are not only unattractive to us, but their behavior is despicable."

*[Paul Earnhart, Invitation To A spiritual Revolution; page 61]*





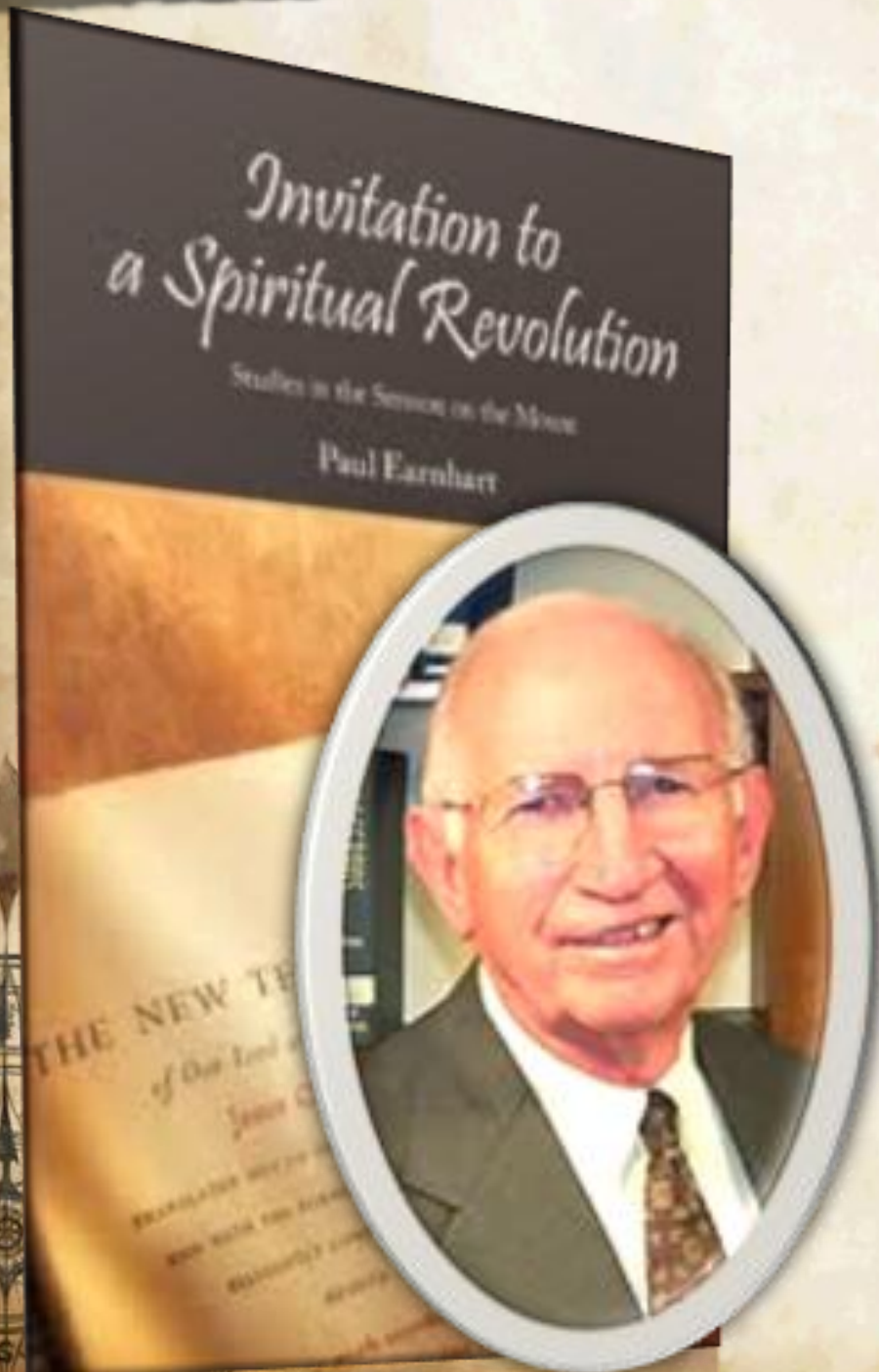
# The Sermon On The Mount

23

*"That you may be the sons of your Father in heaven,"*

“. . . A love for one's adversaries cannot be built upon emotion. The love that can embrace its enemies does not originate on earth . . . The yearning of God for men arises, as it must, from His own gracious character and will. In His mercy He wills to do good to those whose very lives are an offense to His nature."

*[Paul Earnhart, Invitation To A spiritual Revolution; page 61]*





# The Sermon On The Mount

24

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*



## **Matthew 5:46,47 (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

- ◆ Those who **do not** love their enemies are no better than those whom they despise -Luke 18:9-14
- ◆ Men who are the beneficiaries of such undeserved love from God, ought to extend the same kind of love to others - Mat 6:12-15; 1 John 4:7,8; Col. 3:12-14



# The Sermon On The Mount

25

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*



## **Matthew 5:46,47 (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

- ◆ A love of the will - NOT emotions!
- ◆ We must overcome our natural inclinations –
- ◆ It is natural to love those who love us and to hate those who hate us – 46,47; Luke 6:32-35
- ◆ Retaliation is more to our liking! - 38-42



# The Sermon On The Mount

26

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*



## **Matthew 5:46,47 (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

- ◆ We must overcome Biblical Perversions – “You have heard it said” . . .
- ◆ Hatred makes a powerful bond – *(the enemy of mine enemy is my friend)*
- ◆ Scripture has been twisted to justify hatred – “Racism” – “Wars” – “Even In Religion”
- ◆ We must receive, learn & apply the kind of love God has for us!



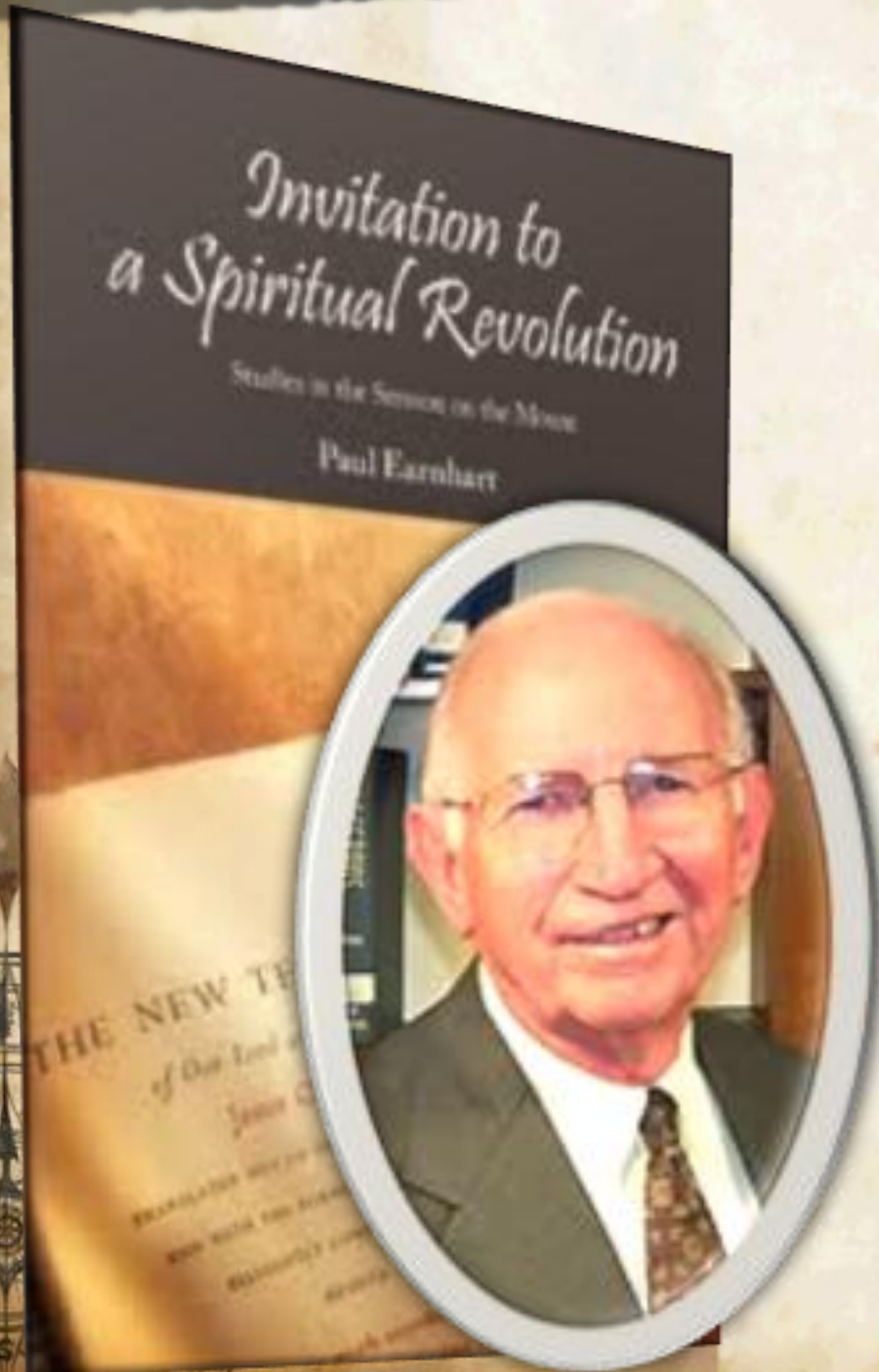
# The Sermon On The Mount

27

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*

"Our Savior is not asking that we have a warm affection for our enemies. In reality, our success in truly loving them will be directly dependent on our ability to detach ourselves from their behavior and respond to their true need rather than their conduct."

*[Paul Earnhart, Invitation To A spiritual Revolution; page 61]*



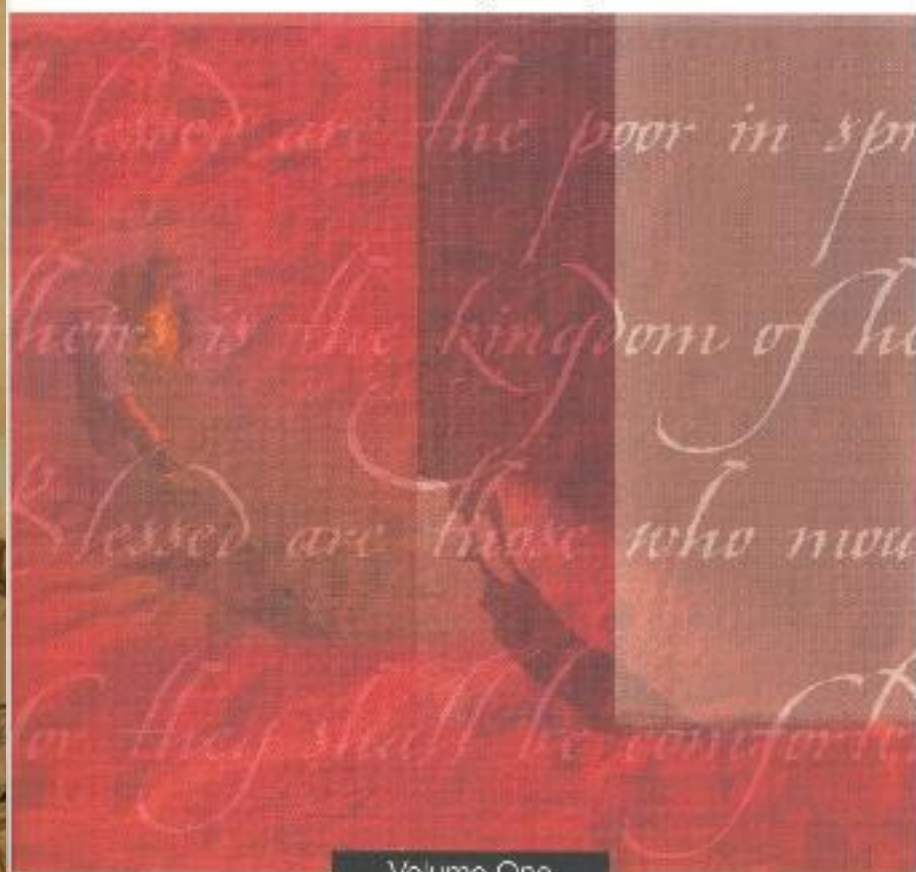


# The Sermon On The Mount

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*

William Barclay

The **New** Daily Study Bible



Volume One

The Gospel of Matthew

Introduction by John Drane

“Agape, (love) does not mean a feeling of the heart, which we cannot help, and which comes unbidden and unsought; it means a determination of the mind, whereby we achieve this unconquerable goodwill even toward those who hurt and injure us.”

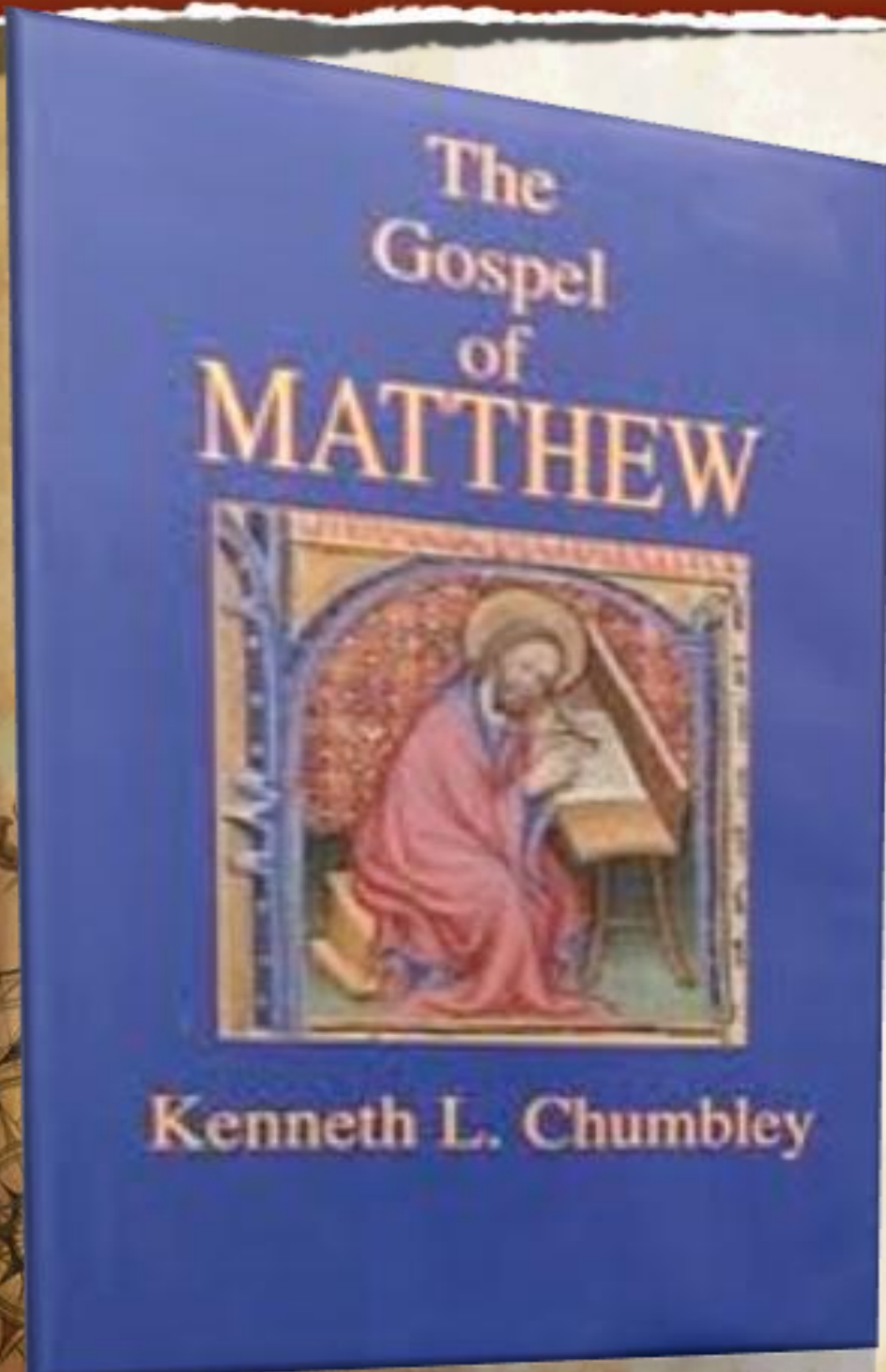
*[William Barclay - Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew]*



# The Sermon On The Mount

29

*"Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*



“The true test of Christian love is not how we treat the innocent, but how we treat the guilty.  
*[(Kenny Chumbley, The gospel of Matthew).”*



# The Sermon On The Mount

30

*"Perfect, just as your Father in Heaven"*



**Matthew 5:48 (NKJV)**

Therefore you shall  
be perfect, just as  
your Father in heaven  
is perfect.

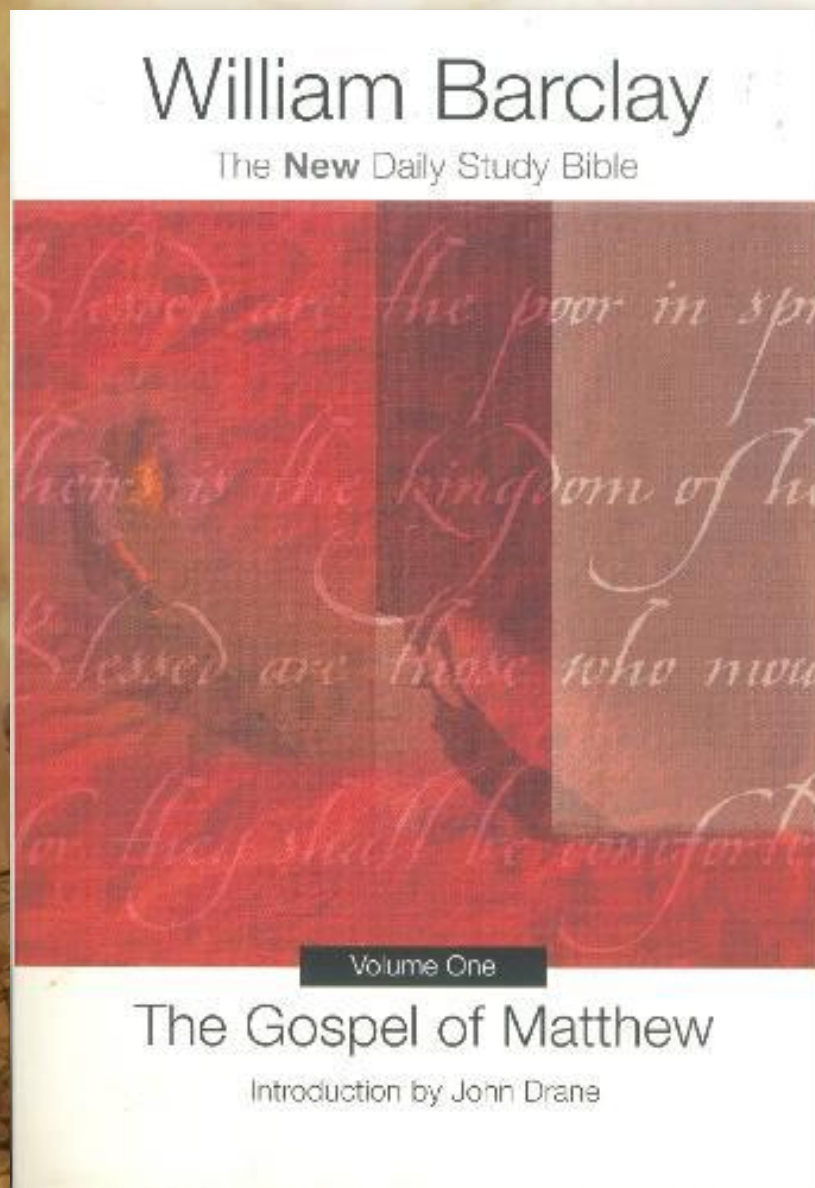
- ◆ The word "perfect" means "brought to completion, full-grown, lacking nothing"
- ◆ In this context, it has reference to the matter of showing love and mercy (*cf. the parallel passage in Luke 6:36*)
- ◆ When we display love and mercy to our enemies - We are "complete," "full-grown" in demonstrating love just as our Father in heaven.



# The Sermon On The Mount

31

*"Perfect, just as your Father in Heaven"*



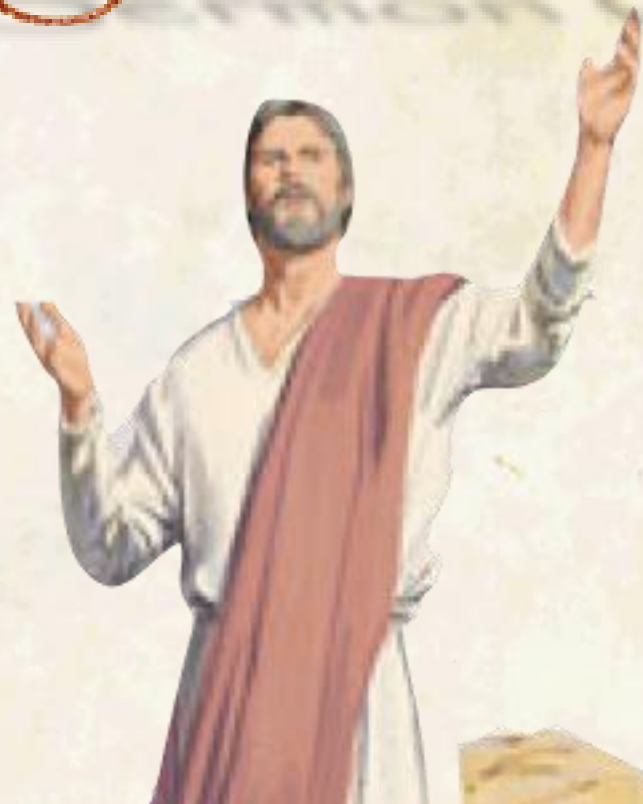
“The Greek idea of perfection is functional. A thing is perfect if it fully realizes the purpose for which it was planned, and designed, and made. In point of fact, that meaning is involved in the derivation of the word. Teleios is the adjective formed from the noun telos. Telos means an end, a purpose, an aim, a goal. A thing is teleios, if it realizes the purpose for which it was planned; a man is perfect if he realizes the purpose for which he was created and sent into the world.”

*[William Barclay - Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew]*



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The Righteousness of Those  
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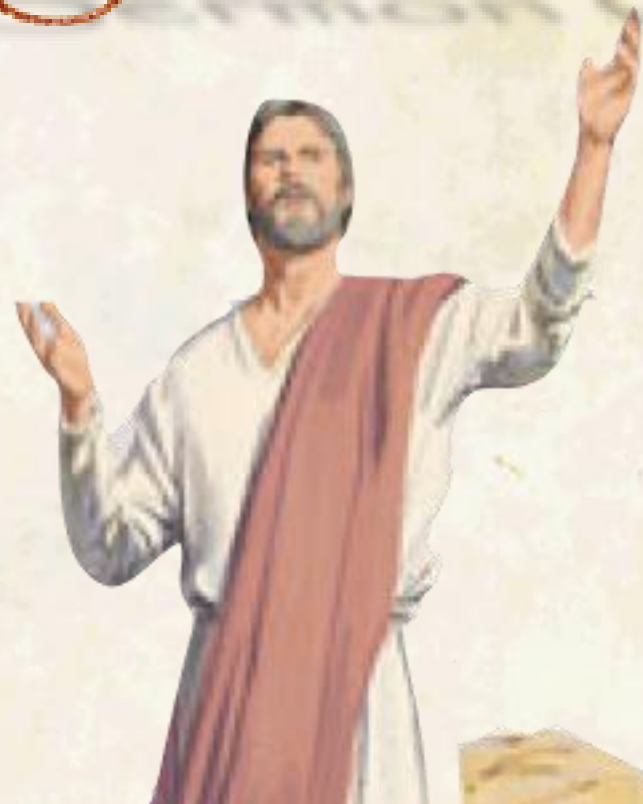
*As kingdom citizens we MUST:*

◆ *Love our enemies, Bless those who curse us, Do good to those who hate us, Pray for those who spitefully use us and persecute us,*



# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those  
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-  
7:12



*As kingdom citizens we MUST Love:*

- ◆ *Even people you were taught to hate -An ungodly husband or wife who has wronged you -A rebellious parent or child -Neighbor, relative, or friend who mistreats you-*



# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those  
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-  
7:12

**God Is  
Love**

**We Are  
Recipients  
of His  
Love**

**We Must  
Extend His  
Love To  
Others**

*How do we compare when we measure  
our love with God's love*



# The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those

Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12



- ◆ Both hatred and love were manifested by the cross –
- ◆ To love like our Father, to love like Jesus, is NOT easy - but NOT impossible.
- ◆ God is love - and if we are truly of God, then His love will be seen in us - even towards those who curse us, who hate us, who hurt us.
- ◆ **Are you "of God?"**







# The Sermon On The Mount

*Love your enemies - bless them - do good - pray for them*

## **Charts by Don McClain**

Prepared May 23-26, 2012

Preached May 27, 2012

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## **Luke 10:25-37 (NKJV)**

<sup>25</sup> And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup> He said to him, "**What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?**" <sup>27</sup> So he answered and said, "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,*" and *'your neighbor as yourself.'*" <sup>28</sup> And He said to him, "**You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.**" <sup>29</sup> But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"



## Luke 10:25-37 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup> Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead.

<sup>31</sup> Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.



## Luke 10:25-37 (NKJV)

<sup>34</sup> So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' <sup>36</sup> So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"

<sup>37</sup> And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "**Go and do likewise.**"