

Sermon On the Mount



Lesson 7

Attitude toward Enemies

- 1) Read Deut. 19:16-21. What beneficial result should have come this commandment?
- 2) Given the flaws of the Pharisees and scribes, how might they have abused the commandment quoted in vs. 38?
- 3) Before concentrating on the actions commanded in vs. 39-42, determine in your mind what principle(s) Jesus is trying to teach.
- 4) For each of the verses below, list the beatitude character traits that would be demonstrated by the required action:
 - a) vs. 39
 - b) vs. 40
 - c) vs. 41
 - d) vs. 42
- 5) Consider the following passages: Romans 12:17-21 and Hebrews 10:30.
- 6) How would the Pharisees and others have defined neighbor and enemy as used in vs. 43?

- 7) Did the Old Testament scriptures teach that you should hate your enemy? Be careful not to give a quick answer. Read Exodus 23:4-5 and Psalms 139:20-22 and consider examples that might lead to an affirmative or negative answer.

- 8) What five commandments are given in vs. 44? Imagine the shock they produced in Jesus' audience.

- 9) Regardless of your answer in question 7, was Jesus teaching something that was radically different than what was practiced and believed before?

- 10) What beatitude character traits would be applied in obeying vs. 44?

- 11) Could there be a connection between vs. 46-47 and vs. 20? What would have been the Pharisee's attitude and behavior toward his enemy? Would he have felt righteous?