

BLESSED

THE LOVE OF A FISHER OF MEN

Matthew 5:38-48

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

39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.

41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

“Eye for an Eye and Tooth for a Tooth”

- **Exodus 21:23-25, Leviticus 24:17-22**
Deuteronomy 19:21

**Biblical – Meant for Civil Cases
For Judges, NOT Individuals.
- Taken Out of Context**

PUNISHMENT “FIT” THE CRIME:

**God meant it to protect the weak,
helpless – Was supposed to be the**

“limit” for punishment –

**Keepers of the Law used it as the
standard, and the expectation!**

Personal Response (HEART)

**- Love, Forgive, Overly Generous,
Caring, and Willing**

Civil Response (JUST)

**- Honest, Fair, and Truthful
Without Pity and Seeking Justice**

**Jesus is saying – Turn our situations of “control or weakness”
into opportunity for Intentionality, Compassion, and Love**

- **Walk the Extra Mile**
 - **Return Insult with Love**
 - **Give More Than Expected**
 - **Heart Response**
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⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is 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.

⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

Love Your Neighbor – Hate Your Enemy *(In the Law)* *(Added to the Law)*

- Jesus is NOT ignorant here... He knows we all have enemies - He says Love Them!
- Luke 10:25-37 – Good Samaritan
 - Jesus says that Neighbors includes your enemies!

“Sons (Huiois) of your Father who is in Heaven”

Nepios, Paidion, Teknon & Huiois
Greek - Four Stages Spiritual Maturity.
Nepios (infants)
Paidion (young child)
Teknon (spiritual teenagers)
Huiois (mature sons)

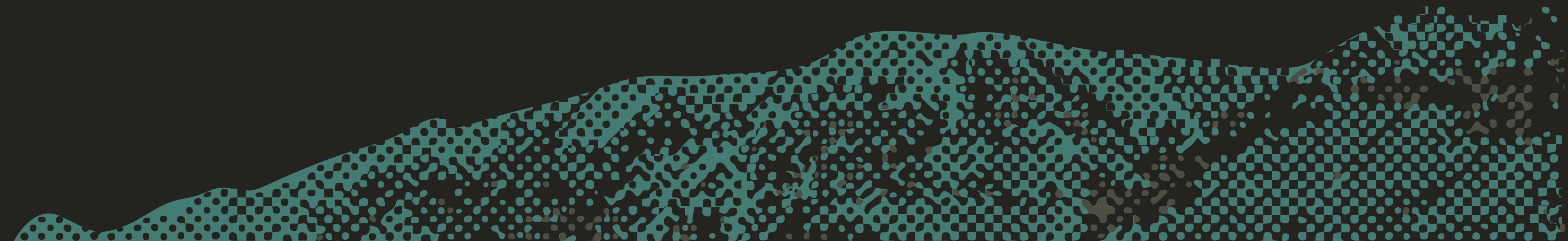
**Maturity is NOT knowing
what to do....**

**Maturity is Doing what you
know – NO MATTER WHAT**



A Change of Heart
NOT Just
A Change of Actions

⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.



Perfect - a state of being complete, mature, sound,
or without blemish, often in a spiritual sense

NONE of us can be perfect by:

- Knowing More - Doing More - Trying Harder

ONLY Christ is Perfect!

**Surrender - Ask Him to Live and Love
Through You - His Kingdom Agenda!**

