

Luke 6:27-36

Love Your Enemies

Wow! We did it. Congratulations on sticking it out. Now as we move into a new set of studies, let us put our eyes on the One Who paid the price.

James had a lot of very practical lessons. Jesus will push us even further!

- 1) Are you a spiritual being? If you are, tell me what is it you do that is evidence of that spirituality?

You see as we move forward into the teachings of Jesus, as documented by Luke, Jesus will challenge us to rise to a new spiritual plane. Even if you know the teaching/parable and already do it --- Jesus will challenge you to do more.

So again, who is Luke? Let's find out.

Luke 1:1-4

Luke self-identifies, and as we read the New Testament in its entirety [Paul's writings in particular], we find out a lot about Luke.

At any rate, Luke was not present at any of the events of Jesus' life and ministry, yet he wove together one of the most lengthy and detailed gospels. Much of what we read in *Chapters 9 - 19* appear only in Luke! As far as the "synoptic" attributes in relation to the other three gospels, it is nearly seamless.

But we are here to study Jesus' words, and we will for the next several months. So, for the most part, you will know ahead of time what the next week's lesson will be.

Romans 5:1-11

- 2) What does this mean to you?

What this means to you will directly affect how you respond to ***Luke 6:27-36***.

Jesus has just healed a multitude and now He is going to feed them spiritually and teach them about Him.

Luke 6:27-36

- 3) Is this literal?

This is a very straight forward teaching. If you don't follow this teaching you will be hindered in your ability to represent Christ.

- 4) Who are your enemies today? (If no enemies, then chief irritant / person / people causing most conflict.)

Proverbs 25:22

Romans 12:9-21

Romans 12:17-21

- 5) Do you like these verses? Why?

You see, how we feel about these verses will really tell the truth about how we feel about our enemies. If we relish the idea that if we are nice, God will punish, then really, we don't understand God and how He works.

You see, by loving the offender --- genuinely, their sin becomes more grievous and God will defend us.

God looks at the heart --- you always hear me say that mental attitude sins are the worst --- God looks at the eyes of your heart and determines how you really feel.

"If your light is darkness, how dark is it?"

- 6) How do you truly love an enemy?

I started out by asking if you are a spiritual being.

Genesis 6:5-8

The heart is desperately wicked. We instinctively will not love our enemy --- only God in you can do that!

Hebrews 4 talks about faith rest. But,

4:12 *'For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.'* NKJV

If you are really trying to forgive those who have offended you --- you will be blessed with peace. That is a true spiritual act.

Let's pray.