



# MATTHEW 5

## SERMON ON THE MOUNT

**Love for Enemies**

# LOVE FOR ENEMIES, 5:43-48

- You have heard...Leviticus 19:18 <sup>18</sup> “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.
- Good Samaritan redefines neighbor  
Luke 10:25-37
- Enemies—those who persecute you—  
goes back to earlier section

# SITUATION OF THE CHURCH

- Enemies—pray for them; different from the Psalms!
- Persecution theme in Matthew important: 10:23; 24:9; 13:21
- ***“Sitz im Leben”*** —technical term for “life situation that the church is facing.”



# GOD IS IMPARTIAL

- **God is impartial—illustration of sun and rain**
- **Notice categories of righteous and unrighteous**
- **Question...what reward will you get?**
- **Concept of “reward” in Matthew**



# REWARD IN MATTHEW

- **Matthew 6:1** -- “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.
- **Matthew 10:41,42**



# REWARD & GRACE

- **Matthew 16:27**--For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.
- Does this negate grace?



# CONCEPT OF REWARD IN JESUS' TEACHINGS

- Ru, G. D. (Apr-Oct., 1966). **The Conception of Reward in the Teaching of Jesus.** *Novum Testamentum*, 8(2/4), pp. 202-222.

- **1. Man in the service of God**
- **2. Reward as grace**
- **3. Reward as intensification of service in communion with God**
- **4. Reward not an object but a surprise thankfully accepted**



# **RU'S CONCLUSION**

- **The teaching of Jesus on reward...**
- **“...Service is not for reward; but yet, to our surprise, “rewarded” by the Lord in His goodness, since He wishes his followers to live in peace, [with relationships healed], and their emptiness filled with the fullness of life.”**



# BE PERFECT

- Tax collectors and pagans do the same
- Pushing concept of righteousness again
- “Perfect” τέλειοι → τέλειός
- How to treat enemies impartially and pray for them!

