

November 29, 2020

Matthew 5:43-48

Matthew: Following the King of Kings

"Be Like Your Father"

INTRODUCTION

1. HATE YOUR ENEMY?
2. BE LIKE YOUR FATHER
3. EXCEED EXPECTATIONS
4. BE PERFECT

Questions for personal meditation and study

1. What do you think of when you think of the word 'charity?' What does that have to do with AGAPE love?
2. How did the religious leaders of Jesus' day get 'hate your enemy' from Leviticus 19:18;33-34?
3. Read Matthew 5:44-45. What do you make of the words, *'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons [and daughters] of your Father who is in heaven?'* How does loving enemies connect to being a son or daughter of God?
4. What is Jesus doing when He says, *"For he [God] makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."* What does this have to do with His command to us to love our enemies?
5. Look at Matthew 5: 46-47. What happens if we only love as we expect others to love? What happens to our gospel mission?
6. What does Jesus mean when He says, *"You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect?"*