



Three Commands & Three Questions

Three Commands 8. Three Questions

The Eight Beatitudes

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God..."

The Six Anti-Theses

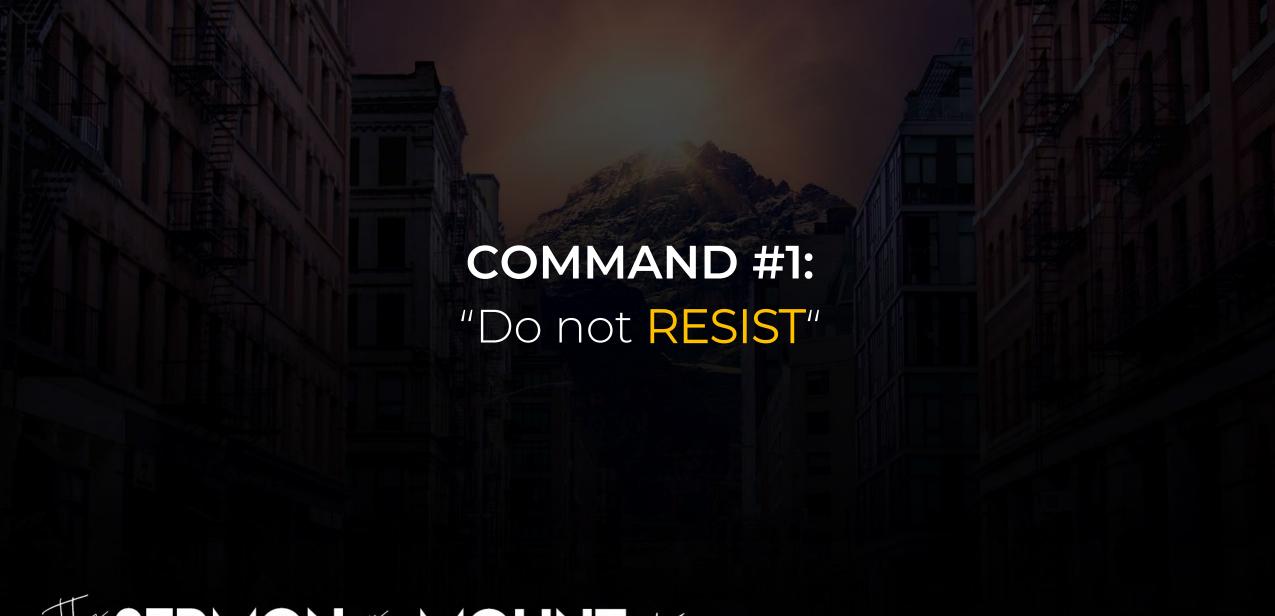
"You have heard it said...but I tell you..."

The Kingdom of God

"You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world..."

MATTHEW 13:44

44 "The KINGDOM OF HEAVEN is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.



MATTHEW 5:38-41

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 an evildoer.' But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; 40 and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; 41 and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.

MATTHEW 5:38-41

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 an evildoer.'

ἀνθίστημι / antistenai / "violent resistance"

EPHESIANS 6:11, 13

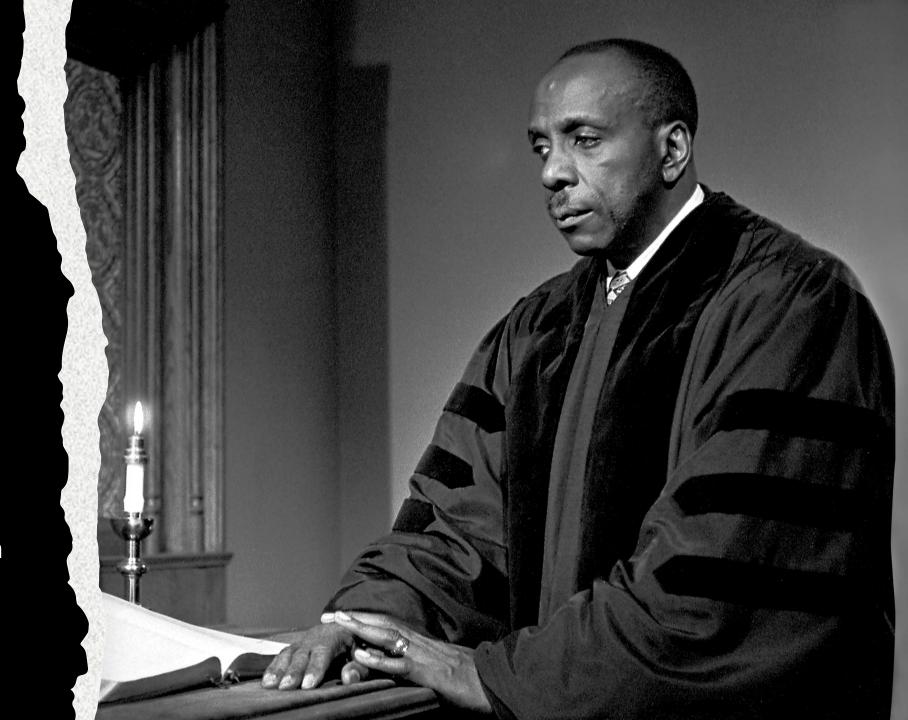
¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to STAND AGAINST the wiles of the devil.

JAMES 4:7

⁷Submit to God, RESIST the Devil, and he will flee from you.

"Wherever [Jesus'] spirit appears, the oppressed gather fresh courage; for he announced the good news that fear, hypocrisy, and hatred —the three hounds of hell that track the trail of the disinherited need have no dominion over them."

- HOWARD THURMAN



MATTHEW 5:38-39

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 any evil doer.' But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also;

⁴⁰ and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well.

DEUTERONOMY 24:10-13

¹⁰ When you make your neighbor a loan of any kind, you shall not go into the house to take the pledge. ¹¹ You shall wait outside, while the person to whom you are making the loan brings the pledge out to you. 12 If the person is poor, you shall not sleep in the garment given you as the pledge. ¹³ You shall give the pledge back by sunset, so that your neighbor may sleep in the cloak and bless you; and it will be to your credit before the LORD your God.

⁴¹ and if anyone forces you to go one mile, **go also the second** mile.

LUKE 23:26-27

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.



MATTHEW 5:43-47

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 children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

MATTHEW 5:43-47

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 and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

MATTHEW 5:43-47

"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

άγάπη / agape / "love"

1 JOHN 4:16

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

MATTHEW 22:36-40

"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ [Jesus] said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

4 Agape is patient; agape is kind; agape is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. *Agape* does not insist on its own way; *agape* is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ *agape* does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ Agape bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ *Agape* never fails.

"Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.





48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

τέλειος / teleios / "complete"

48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

τέλειος / teleios / "complete"

ἄγιος / hagios / "holy"

The Eight Beatitudes

The poor in spirit, meek, hungering and thirsting for righteousness, making peace with others.

The Six Anti-Theses

Overcoming anger through reconciliation, lust through discipline, dishonesty through simple speech, and vengeance through enemy-love.

The Kingdom of God

"Then people will come from east and west, north and south, to recline and feast at the table in the Kingdom of God. There, the first will be last, and the last will be first."

Three Commands Three Questions

QUESTION #1: "What about...a Christian view of self-defense and defending others?"

Christian SELF-DEFENSE

Predominant view since Augustine championed the idea in the 4th century. What you fight about and how you fight must be "just."

OT distinguishes between "murder" and killing, which God allows, commands, and sometimes engages in himself. In the NT, Jesus directs his disciples buy swords, uses a whip to cleanse the temple, never rebukes a Roman soldier, and returns in Revelation with violent final judgment.

Christian NONVIOLENCE

Near-universal view of church for first 300 years. Changed after Rome legalized the faith and church merged with state. Disastrous record of violence after that.

OT "shows rather than tells" evil practices like polygamy, slavery, and patriarchy.
David's violence was ruinous. And the prophets are a bridge to the NT.

NT – Jesus rebukes Peter's use of the sword, teaches enemy love, never hits a soul with his whip, saves his enemies by dying for them. We imitate his first coming (Phil 2), not his second.

QUESTION #2: "What about...a Christian view of government and war?" The SERMON of MOUNT Kingdom Come





"PRAY for those who persecute you."

"BLESS those who curse you."

"BEAT your swords into plowshares."

RAWTOOLS, INC

FORGING PEACE
DISARMING HEARTS



