

Second Mile Religion

Matt. 5:38-48

Introduction:

- A. Jesus teaches an attitude that lifts us to a higher plane.
 - 1. Above carnal reactions (vv. 39, 43-48).
 - 2. Higher moral and ethical standards than society at large (v. 47; Mt. 5:13-16).
 - 3. Give more than the mere expected or compelled (vv. 40, 41)
- B. The most happy and productive Christians have the “second mile” mentality.
- C. Christians are taught apply the “second mile” attitude to every *phase* of their lives.

Conclusion:

I. In the Home

- A. Husbands more than just exercise headship— honor, nourish, cherish (1 Pet. 3:7; Eph 5:28, 29)
- B. Wives more than just submit — willingly and respectfully (Eph. 5:33; 1 Pet. 3:5,6).
- C. Parents’ more than just control children — with training and admonish of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).
- D. Children more than just obey parents — honor them (Eph 6:1)

II. In Society.

- A. Go second mile to maximize influence with non-Christians (Col. 4:5-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-22).
- B. Obey authorities more than just out of fear — for conscience sake (Rom. 13:1-5; 1 Pet. 2:13-17).
 - 1. Not “pick and choose” the laws to obey.
 - 2. Not only those that run the risk of being caught.
 - 3. Includes willingly paying taxes (Rom. 13:6-7)

III. In the Church.

- A. Doing more than just enough to “get by” — abound (cf. 1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 9:6; 2 Pet. 1:8).
 - 1. In our attendance.
 - 2. In our support.
 - 3. In our other duties: study, visiting, etc.
- B. Willing to do more than just “my fair share”
 - 1. Need to do my share (Eph. 4:16).
 - 2. May need to help another with his share (Rom. 15:1,2).

Conclusion:

- A. Church suffering for a lack of “second mile” Christians.
- B. Remember it is a matter of attitude — wanting to everything within our power to honor our Lord.