

Lesson V.

SOME LAWS OF THE KINGDOM

January 30, 1910

Matthew 5 : 22-26, 38-48. Study Matthew 5 : 17-26, 38-48—Memory Verse, 44.

Golden Text—Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.—Matthew 5 : 48.

22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment : and whosoever shall say to his brother, Ra'ca, shall be in danger of the council : but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee :

24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way ; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him ; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth :

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil : but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. 43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you ; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven : for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye ? do not even the publicans the same ? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others ? do not even the publicans so ? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Jesus, after telling His disciples and the rest of the multitudes how they might be truly happy, went on to explain the difference between His laws and the false teachings of the scribes and Pharisees, who were always quarreling amongst themselves about what their laws meant. "Now it has been told you", said Jesus, "that if you should kill another person, you would be in danger of being punished. But I tell you that, if you are even angry with another without a good reason, you will be in danger of punishment."

Then He told His hearers that, when they were going up to the temple to worship, they must try and remember whether they had

done wrong to any person. And if they had, they must first go and make the wrong right with that person ; for God would not accept nor care for their worship, while there was some sin in their hearts that they had not repented of.

It was the custom amongst the Jews that, when one man injured another, he should be punished by receiving the same injury in return, so that the words, "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth", were a common saying.

But Jesus said, "I say unto you, resist not evil : but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. If a man take away thy coat, let him have