



9.7.19

1. Later in the Gospel of Matthew (25:31-48), Jesus describes a final judgment. The standard: what you have done to the least of these my brothers you have done to me. Notice the righteous ask, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?” And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.”

Who are the King’s little brothers? Traveling Christian missionaries in danger? Or anyone?

With this standard of judgment, whatever happened to salvation by grace?

2. A Christian once said after being struck, “You have one more shot at me and then you better run.”

***Was he applying the counsel of Jesus correctly?
Is there a place for prudence or discretion in applying Jesus’ counsels?***

3. In Matthew 5:38-48, Jesus offers several examples of loving, creative, assertive, and mature responses to injustice that might be available to impoverished peasants living under Roman occupation with a rigged legal system. We live in the 21st century in quite different circumstances and culture.

What creative, assertive, mature (perfect), and loving response to evils or



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injustice have you experienced (on either the giving or the receiving end)?

What was the impact, short term and long term, of that response?

What challenges do institutions like churches or businesses face in responding as Jesus teaches to unfairness or injustice?

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