



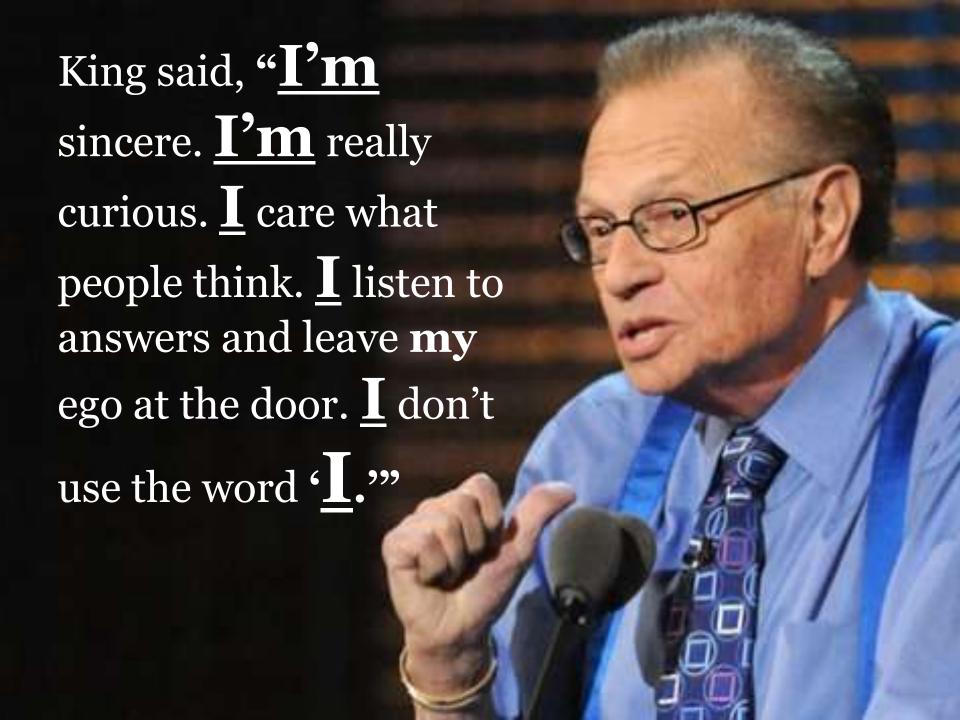
# It is very difficult for the human race to get along.



Human beings are talented at destroying relationships and they don't know where to turn ...









### "Walking" ...

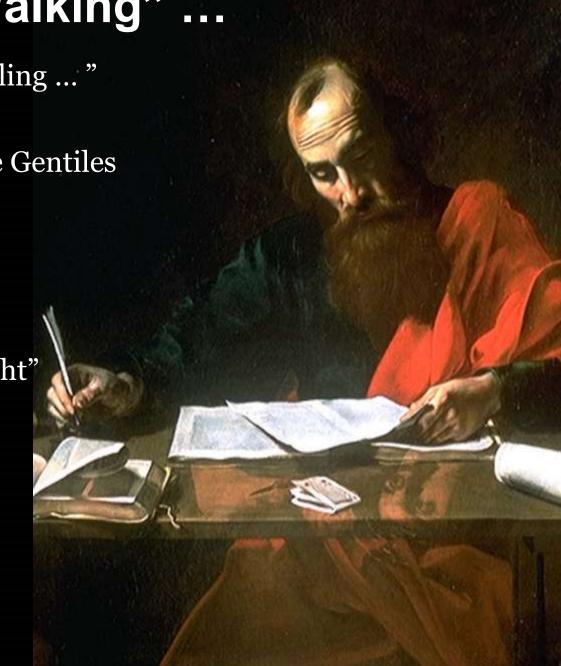
4:1: "walk worthy of the calling ..."

4:17: "walk no longer as the Gentiles walk"

5:2: "walk in love"

5:8: "walk as children of light"

5:15: "be careful how you <u>walk</u>, not as unwise, but as wise"

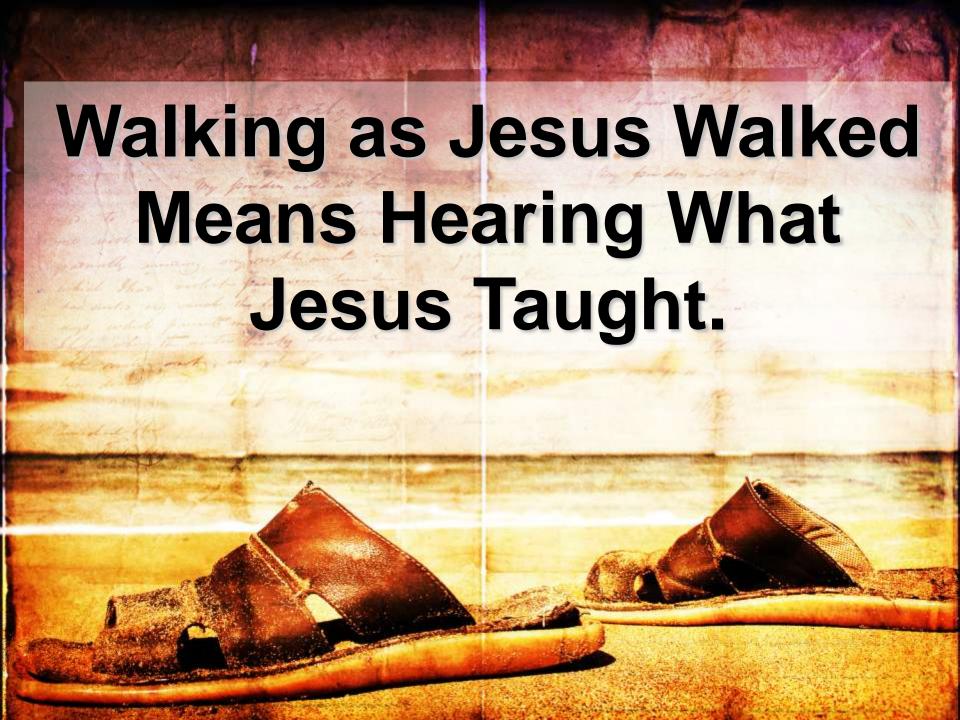


#### Ephesians 5:2 ...

- Ephesians 5:2, "περιπατεῖτε ἐν ἀγάπῃ …"
- "... καθὼς ὁ Χριστὸς ἠγάπησεν ..."
- Walk like this:

  1) Sacrificially:
  - 1) Sacrificially as Christ,
  - 2) in practical, loving obedience (vv.3-6)







A master ethics class taught by the master teacher.

### This is Christianity 101

- all other descriptions will be extrapolation or commentary on what Jesus says.

## Context.

## "For I desire mercy

(τοςς steadfast love) and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

- Hosea 6:6



# "Blessings on those who are Spiritually impoverished

( πτωχοὶ τῷ πνεύματι )."

- Matthew 5:3



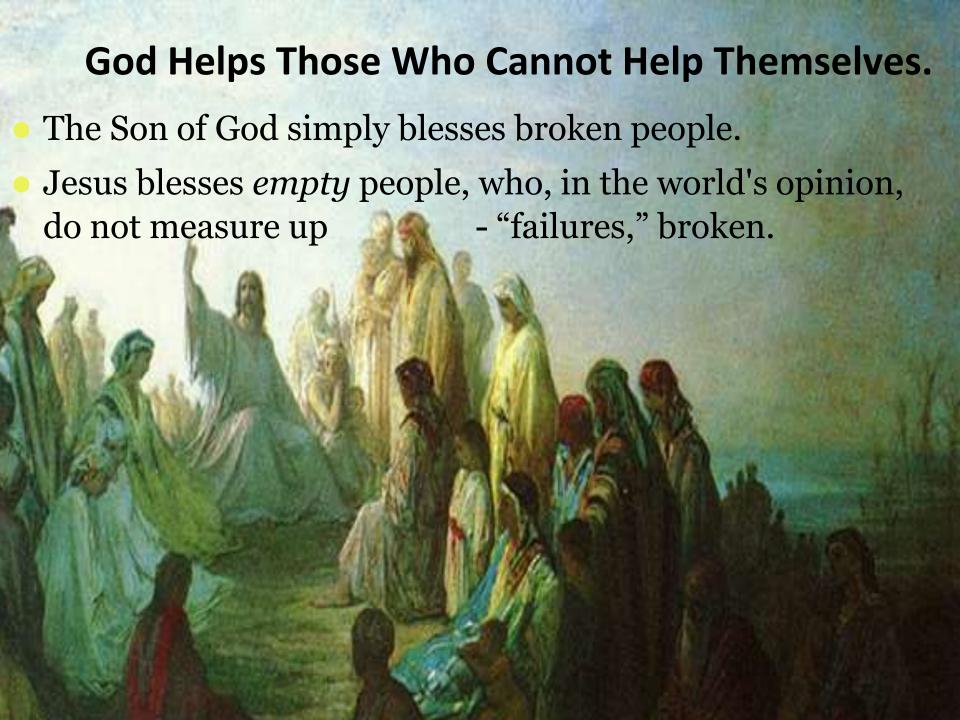
#### "Blessed are..."

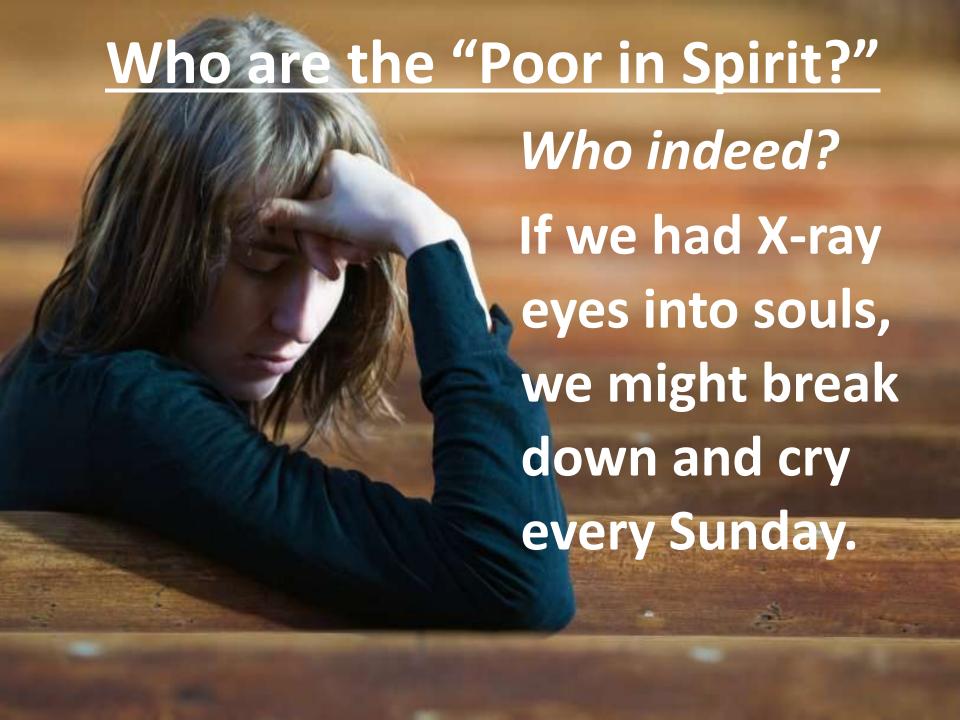
- Hebrew ¬₩X Psalm 32:2
- Greek μακάριος,
- "Blessed are ..."?
- "Happy *are* ... "?

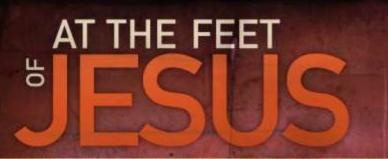
Jesus is doing more than stating facts!

"Blessings on..." because Jesus came to *deliver* help!









# The Seven Commands,

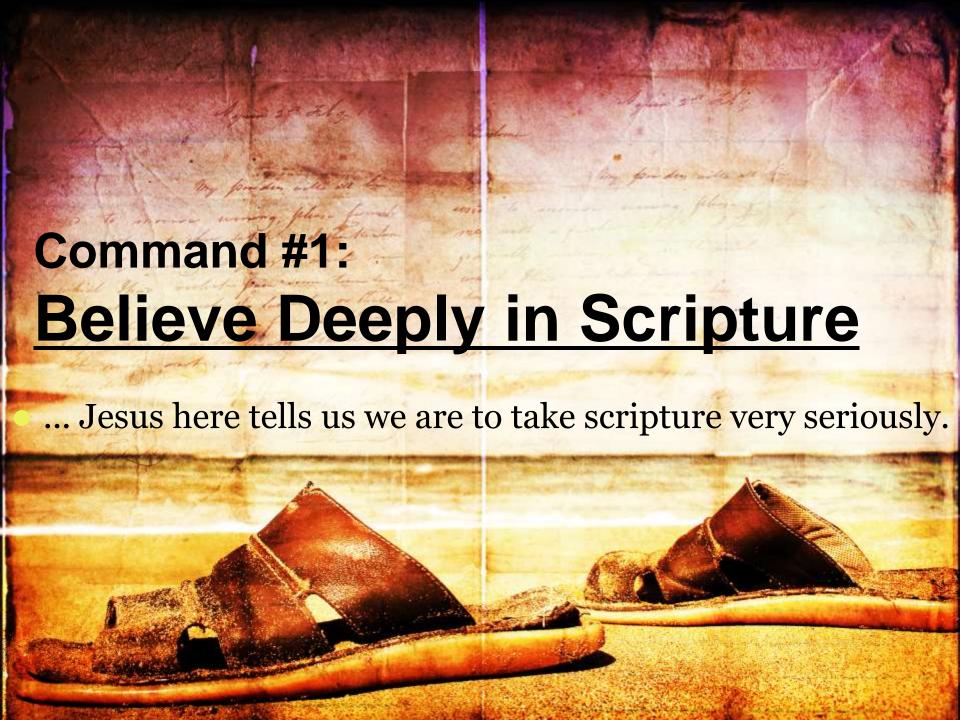
5:17-48

Deserving of the same attn as the Ten Commandments

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished."

- Matthew 5:17-18





## "Believe Deeply in Scripture!"

- Are you in hearing the Words of Jesus, Paul, Scripture daily?
- •Are you among God's people each week?
- How else will you grow? Walk correctly?
- Without these your beliefs become bizarre and Christian life will wither and die.

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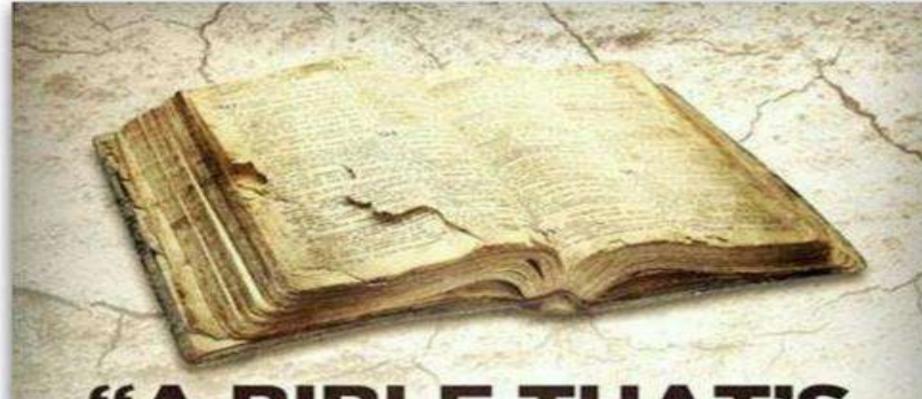
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### "ABIBLE THAT'S FALLING APART

USUALLY BELONGS TO SOMEONE WHO ISN'T."

CHARLES SPURGEON

### "... came to fill the Law full!"

- Jesus "came" (how strange!)
  not just to preach the Law
  with brilliance, but to
  "fulfill" ( ἀλλὰ πληρῶσαι,
  exclusively Christological verb) it
  with obedience.
- Jesus' disciples are asked to keep these commands in rich obedience.

"Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."





# being "Great" = being a personal translation of Scripture!



#### So, your "exceeding righteousness" 5:20 is

- To have Jesus' **heart for the underprivileged** (5:1-6; 8:1-17)
- To desire mercy not sacrifice (9:13; 12:7)
- To **care** (5:21-48; 22:34-40)
- To become **as little ones** (18:1-5; 19:14)
- To develop **humility** (2:8-12)
- To suffer for righteousness (10:16-39)

• This results in "greatness", **5:48** 



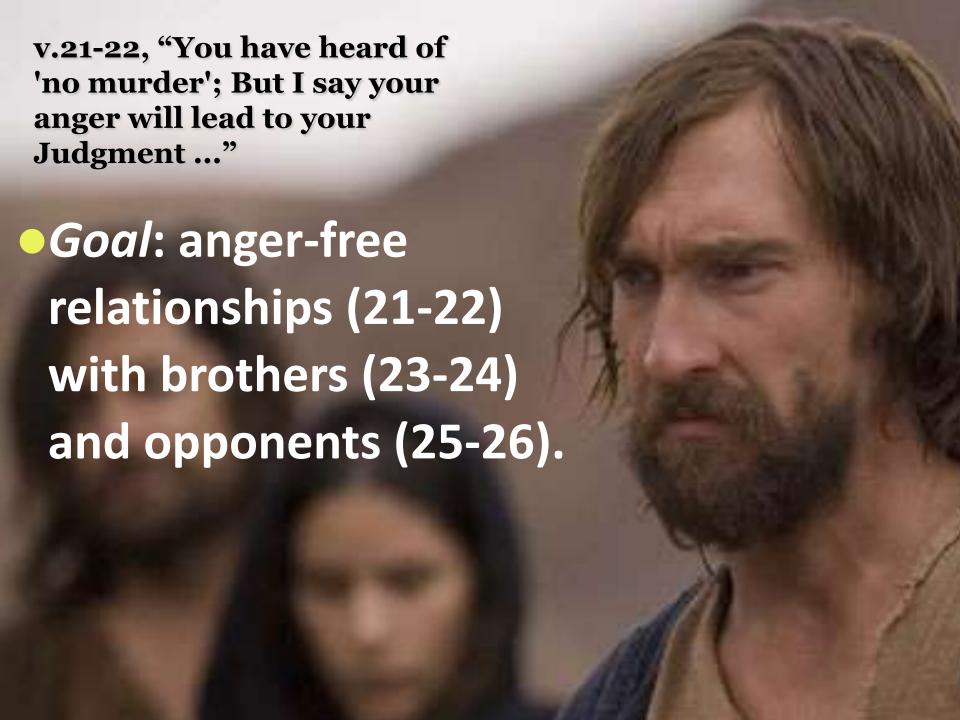


v.21-22, "You have heard ...; <u>But I say</u> ..."

"But I say to you."

The audacity! He's not comparing himself to another man, He's comparing himself to the Ten Commandments!

Jesus cites OT Word of God and and then says, " Ἐγὼ δὲ λέγω!" Who does he think he is?







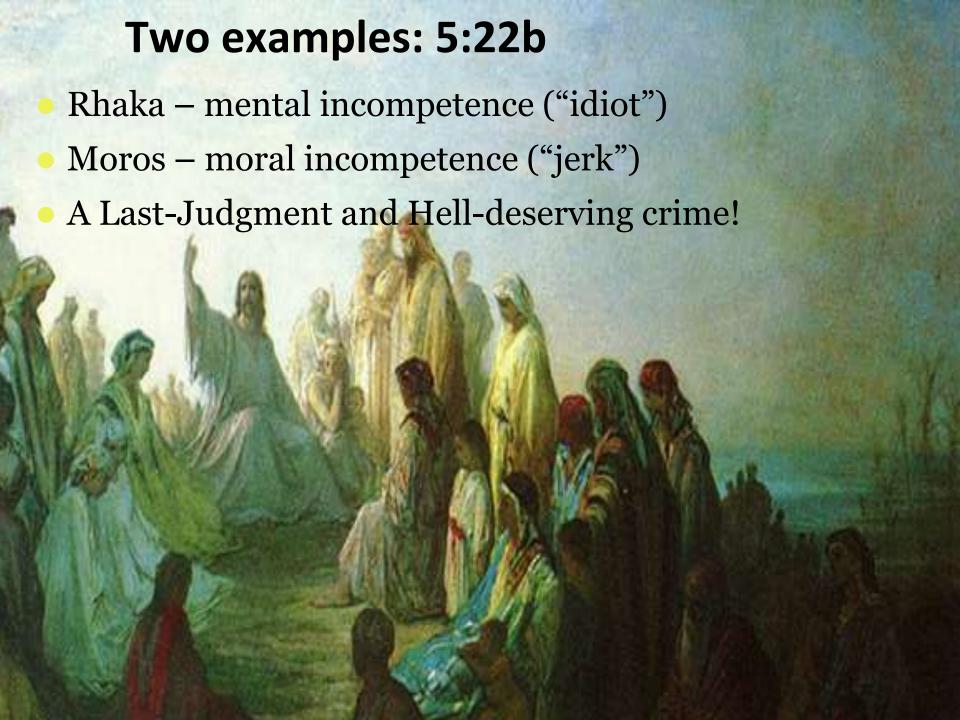




## Likes You When You Are Angry.



"Thymos blazes, but orge is carried." Do not carry or nurse your anger. Anger is often involuntary (Matt 18:15). What will we do with it?



• Another Christian is, by definition, and by baptism, a real brother and sister whether we like it or not, whether we are happy with God's adoption policies or not.

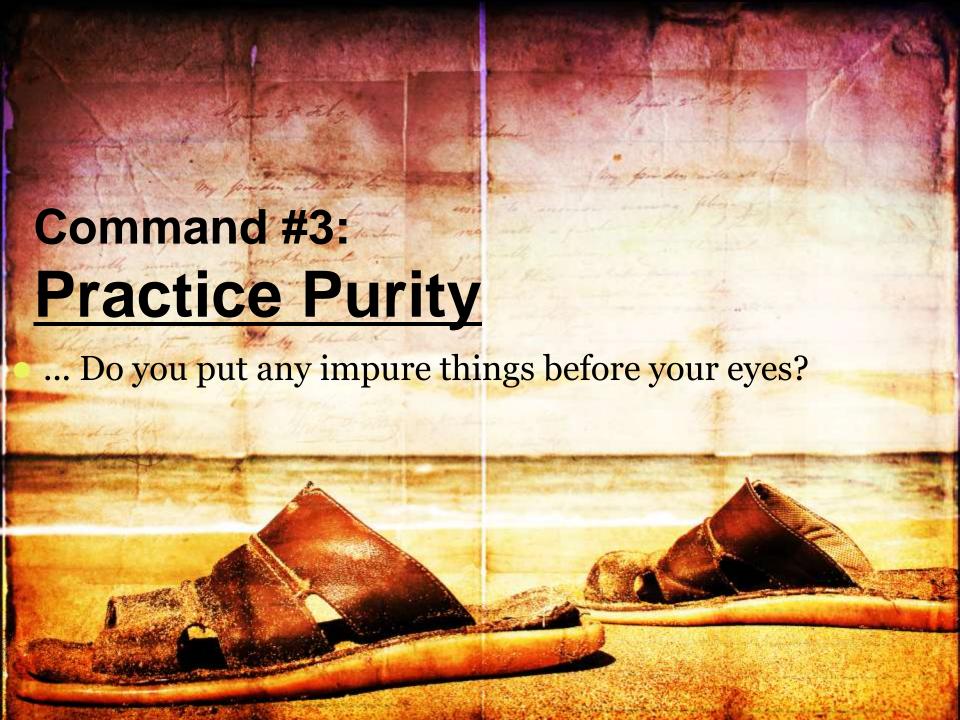




## 5:23-24

Note "anything" (τίς), and "swiftly" (πρῶτον).

Much damage is averted with this pair of little steps (Eph.4:26).



• 5:27-30. "is staring..."

"the leering look"

Is it worth the trouble you are in?

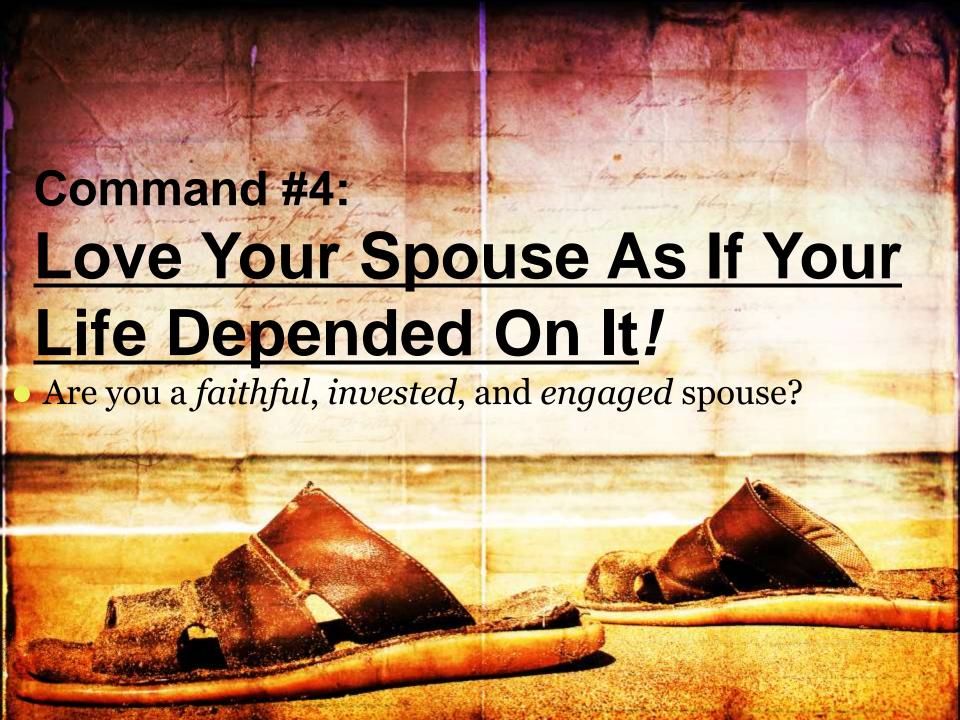
• **To look** at an attractive person is a drive given in creation; **to stare** is a drive given at the fall of creation.

 Looking "with," and looking "in order to" (πρὸς τὸ ἐπιθυμῆσαι ).

• Also, inciting.

• The need of immediate surgery!





v.31-32, "You have heard Moses allowed free divorce; But I say, divorce except for adultery <u>is</u> adultery."

• After foolish anger, this is culture's

 After foolish anger, this is culture's most pervasive sin.

- We are not to be animals.
- Jesus hurts our feelings!!! There are some people who are divorced that should not be remarried to some one else. Some are living in adulterous relationships.
- There can be forgiveness if one ceases the adulterous activity/relationship.

# Controversy!

- The battle over interpreting Deut 24, between Rabbis Shammai and Hillel.
- Hillel "some indecency"
- Shammai stressed "some <u>indecency</u>"
   'ervath, "nakedness."
- Aqiba stressed "<u>favor</u>," meaning "if she no longer seemed beautiful to him."
- Jesus sides with Shammai

Massachusetts resident Linnie Kazarian had a devoted and loving wife.



Linnie's mother was deathly ill and was being cared for by his wife.

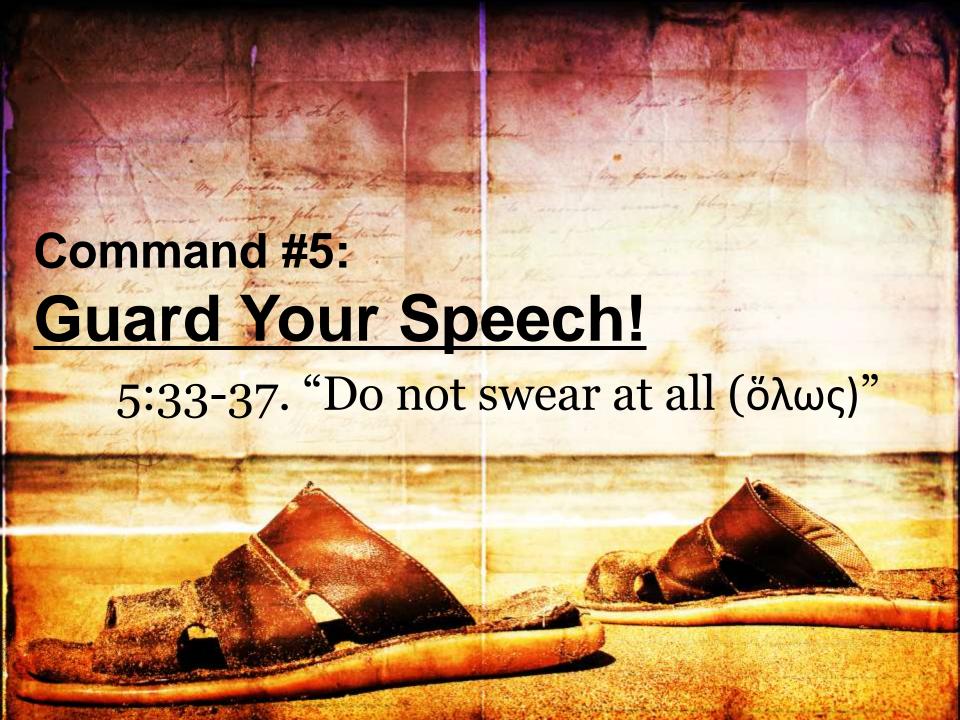
But Linnie was unfaithful ...





## **The Matthean Exception: 5:32**

- Divorce is like a Shakespearean tragedy! There are three dead or dying persons on stage: the divorcing husband, the mortally wounded wife, the encroaching new man. Dead bodies lying all over.
- Jesus is simply underlining how divorce is normally against the will of God and remarriage should be extremely rare.



v.37, "Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one." Everything a Christian says is bound by an invisible oath: Honesty before God! A Panama City, Fla company held a contest for its employees ending on April 1st

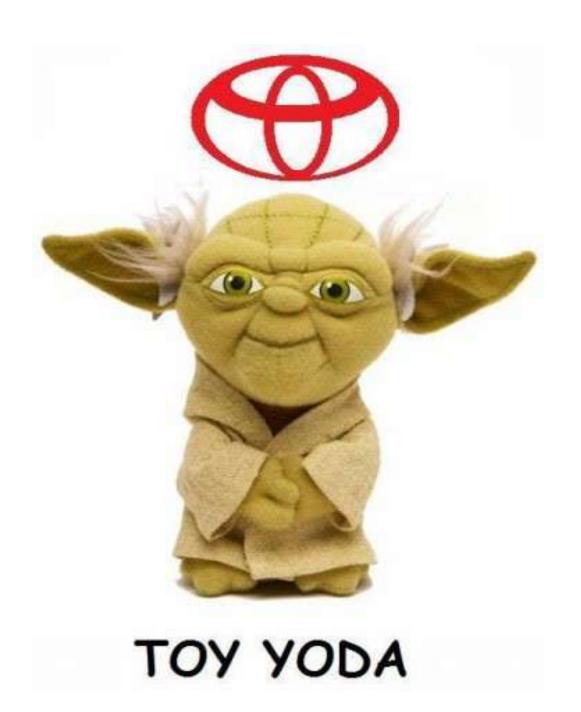


The employee with the most sales would win a free Toyota!

Jody Berry won!

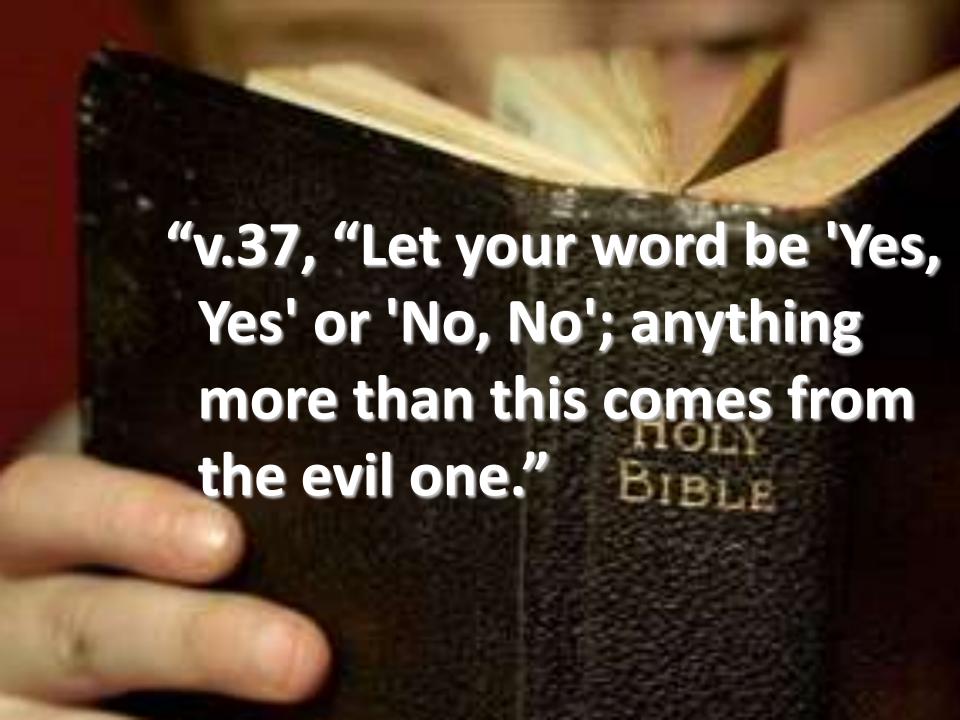


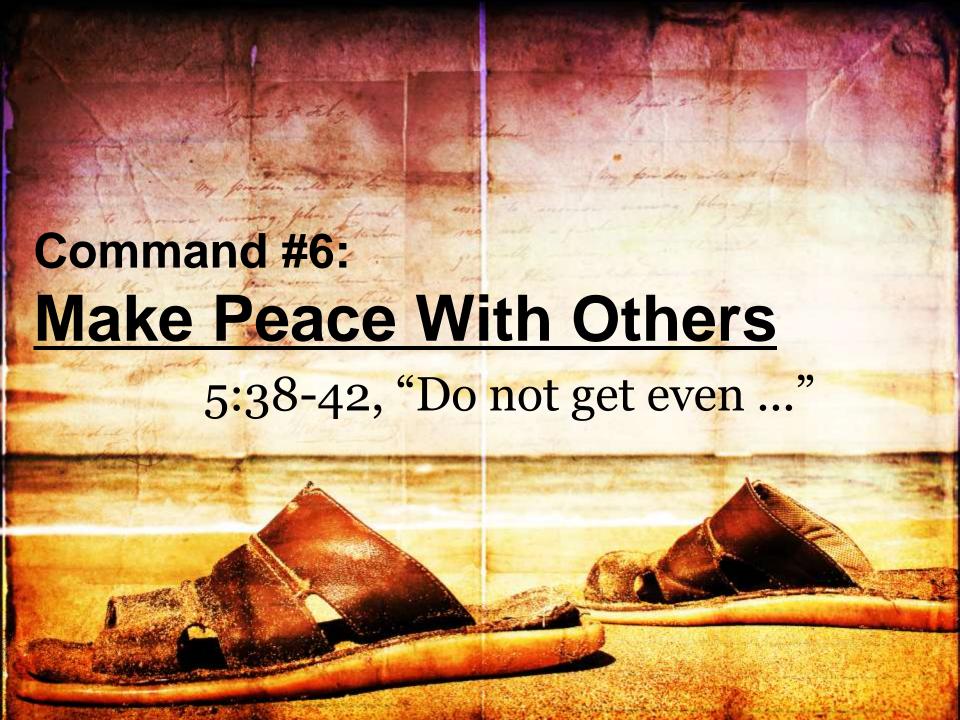
They gathered to reward her on April 1st ...





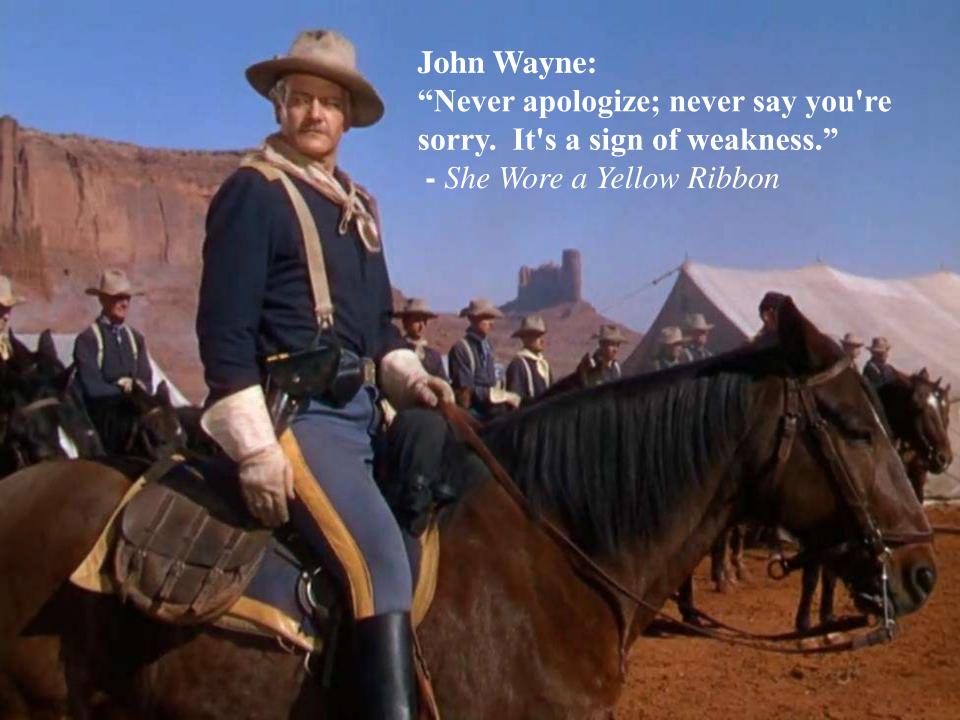






# ee

Verse 39, "do not resist" is poorly translated. μη άντιστῆναι means "do not take revenge on."

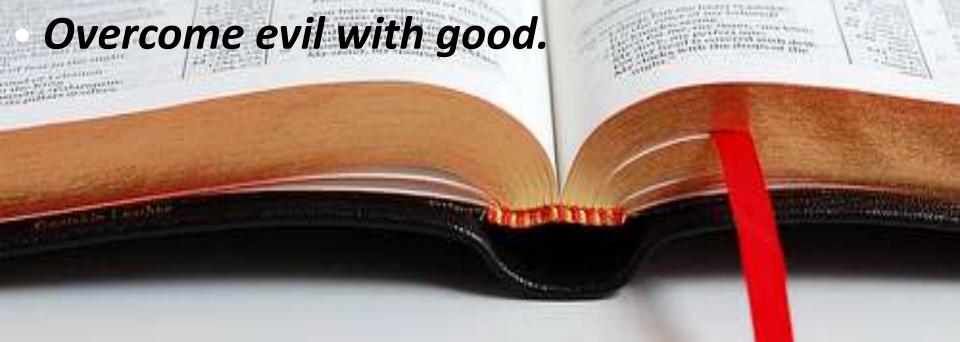


# Huckleberry Finn

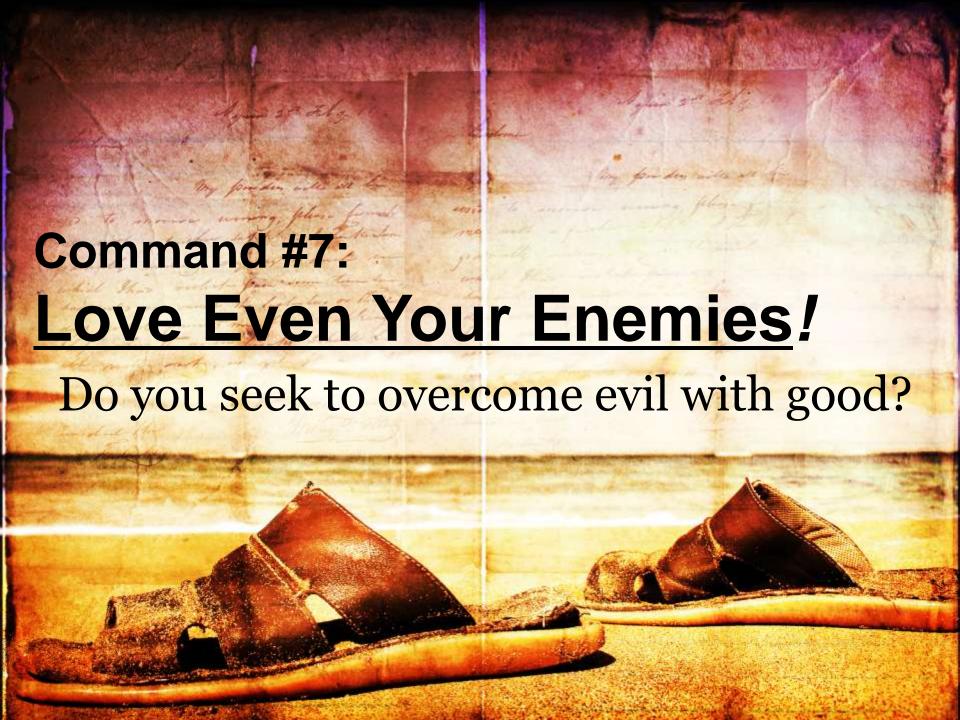
Buck: "What's a feud?"

Huck Finn: "A feud is this way: A man quarrels with another, kills him; then that man's brother kills him; then the other brothers on boths sides goes for one another; and by and by everybody's killed off, and there ain't no more feud. But it's kind of slow, and takes a long time."

- 1Th.5:15, "Do not pay back evil with evil."
- Jesus' counsel: Offer yourself in peace while poised of faith.
- This is hard when someone slaps or exploits you.
- We are rightly agitated by their wrong, but remember, evil cannot be overcome by evil!



Perhaps we can thus reconcile and convert (4:19).



# Life is 10% of what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it

- John Maxwell



- Mat 5:44, "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"
- The Jew would've thought of the tax collector and the Roman.
- Do our prayers often enough include intercession for persecutors?
- The shortest route to the First Beatitude is to take Jesus' Last Command seriously.

## Jesus' Seven Commands Define Christian Living:

- Treasure the Word
- Banish resentment
- Fight off lust like death
- Fight infidelity unwaveringly
- Seek to avoid disingenuous or hurtful speech
- Be undefensive and overcomers with good.
- Be aware of the ability to even love enemies.
- v.48, "There must be no limit to your goodness, as your heavenly Father's goodness knows no bounds."