

P.M. OUTLINE  
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**A CHEEK, A CLOAK, AND A SECOND-MILE**  
(Matthew 5:38-48; Luke 6:29-36)

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**INTRODUCTION**

Jesus teaches a lesson about REVENGE (don't do it!): (Mtt. 5:38) "Ye have heard it said ... "

Lesson in the negative: don't act like the heathen; no exact retaliation; no personal vendetta; no vengeance; don't take the law into your own hands; no vigilantism; no getting even.

Lesson in the positive: act rightly; exemplify Christianity; behave yourself; obey the law of the land and God's.

The text gives 4 reasons for NOT exacting revenge:

- 1) (v39) "But I say unto you ... " - it's a command from the highest authority.
- 2) (v45) "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven" - act like your Father.
- 3) (v48) "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" - Behave in a mature manner; as an adult; as a grown-up.
- 4) (Luke 6:36) "as ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also to them likewise" - It's the "Golden Rule" found also in (Matt. 7:12).

**3 EXAMPLES GIVEN BY JESUS**

**1. PHYSICAL HARM**

(v39) "whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also"

Not a literal example of saying, "Hit me one more time, please."

(Rms. 12:17-21) "Recompence to no man evil for evil ... overcome evil with good"

**2. IN LITIGATION**

(v40) "if any man sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also"

Not literally. In the courts of the land, we are not obligated to do more than the judgment.

Yes, abide by the law, and do it without retaliation or threats (don't add something to make it worse).

**3. AN OFFICIAL DEMAND**

(v41) "and whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him two"

Dating back to the Persians, it was a custom for government officials to compel others to assist them in their official business, if needed.

Not a literal second-mile; rather, an illustration of doing more than what's expected.

**CLOSE** - it's an attitude and action that identifies us as disciples, and it will glorify God.