



THE **REALITY** *of*
RESTORATION

Your desire for
restoration must
overcome your desire
for **retaliation** or
bitterness will settle in.

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38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’

Matthew 5:38

See Leviticus 24:20; Deut 19:21

- The rule...

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See Leviticus 24:20; Deut 19:21

- The rule was to *restrain* vengeance to what had been lost.
- The rule was to be applied by governing authorities not personal vendetta.

- Don't return insult for insult –
- Don't be defined by defending your rights –
- Don't be known by the bare minimum –
- Don't deny those in need –

38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ 39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. **But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.**

Matthew 5:38-39

- Don't return insult for insult –
choose submission to God over selfish emotions (Eph. 4:31-32).
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⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

Matthew 5:40-42

²⁶ If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, ²⁷ for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

Exodus 22:26, 27

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- Don't be known by the bare minimum – *go above and beyond with a joyful attitude* (Mark 10:45; Heb. 12:2).
- Don't deny those in need –

There are always two ways of doing things. A man can do the irreducible minimum and not a stroke more; he can do it in such a way as to make it clear that he hates the whole thing; he can do it with the barest minimum of efficiency and no more; or he can do it with a smile, with a gracious courtesy, with a determination, not only to do this thing, but to do it well and graciously. **He can do it, not simply as well as he has to, but far better than anyone has any right to expect him to. . .**

William Barclay

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- Don't be defined by defending your rights – see *restoration as a priority over restitution* (Mat. 18:15)
- Don't be known by the bare minimum – *go above and beyond with a joyful attitude* (Mark 10:45; Heb. 12:2).
- Don't deny those in need – *learn to give without expectation* (Luke 6:35).

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