The Sermon on the Mount
32 – Eye for an Eye – The Problem with Reading Someone Else's Mail
Matthew 5:38-42

I. The Law of Moses – The Big Picture

II. The Wisdom and Goodness of Lex Talionis (the law of retaliation) as a Principle of Public Justice in the Hands of the Civil Magistrate

III. The Weakness of Lex Talionis and the Superiority of the Law of Love as a Principle for Personal Behavior in the Heart of the Citizen of Christ's Kingdom

A. The Weakness of Lex Talionis

1. Objectivity is lacking

2. Rarely resolves, usually makes worse

3. Fleshly principle requiring nothing of grace or spirituality

B. The Superiority of the Law of Love

1. Recommended and affirmed by the Golden Rule

2. Most likely response to defuse, to convict, and to convert

3. Supremely Christ-like, gracious, and spiritual