

The Fifth Antithesis – Part 2

Matthew 5:39b-42

Introduction: Proverbs 20:22; 25:21-22

Verse 39b – Illustration #1

2 Corinthians 11:19-21

John 18:19-23

Acts 16:35-40

Romans 8:16-17

Philippians 1:29

Verse 40 – Illustration #2

Exodus 22:26-27

D. A. Carson is correct when he states that, “Although under Mosaic law the outer cloak was an inalienable possession (Exod 22:26; Deut 24:13), Jesus’ disciples, if sued for their tunics (an inner garment like our suit but worn next to the skin), far from seeking satisfaction, will gladly part with what they may legally keep” (EBC, Vol. 8, p. 156).

Verse 41 – Illustration #3

Here Jesus refers to “the Roman practice of commandeering civilians to carry the luggage of military personnel a prescribed distance, one Roman ‘mile’” (D. A. Carson, EBC, p. 156).

Verse 42 – Illustration #4

Luke 6:30-36

As Daniel Doriani states, “The command is unlimited, which prompts questions about potential abuses. To be sure, no one should give until his family lacks food (1 Tim. 5:8), and heedless giving can foster dependency, but these points must not erase the call to generosity. The Lord is generous; his people are too” (*Matthew–Luke: Vol. VIII*, p. 102).

Romans 12:17-21