

Text: Matthew 5:38-42

The Contrast Between Human Tradition and Life Under Christ's Rule

- The framework of human tradition and government _____ of vengeance.

- Life under Christ's rule _____.

Live God's Alternative Lifestyle

- Don't value your _____ above the kingdom.

- Don't value _____ more than the kingdom.

- Serve _____.

An Unnatural Methodology Requires Divine Involvement and an Eternal Outlook

- Christ's unnatural methodology requires divine involvement.

- Christ's unnatural methodology also requires an eternal outlook.

Life Enrichment

What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- What are some ways people act out vengeance in everyday life?
- How significant of a role does vengeance play in our interactions with others?
- What is the role of government and religious tradition toward vengeance?
- Why do you think Jesus demands His followers not live by vengeance?
- How do you think abandoning vengeance might change the way we relate to others? The way they respond to us?
- Which of the illustrations Jesus gives in Mathew 5:39-42 do you find most difficult to apply? Why?
- Why is it so difficult to lay aside our rights? Why is it unnatural to *not* defend our honor/dignity?
- How did Jesus implement this approach (Matt 27:12-14; 1 Pe 2:23)? What was the outcome?
- How does laying aside our rights and not defending our dignity demonstrate Christ to others?
- What can we do this week to implement Christ's unnatural methodology? At home? At work? In the community?