

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## *Living & Loving with Jesus* **Matthew 5:38-48**

### **How does that land for you?**

- Race, gender, politics, socio-economics, ethnicity...
- Who were your predecessors, & who judges you for it?

*I expect **you are the target** of someone's condemnation*

- **How will we react** – you & I?
- Is self-preservation, or defense our bottom line?

*Jesus has gone **from preaching to meddling** here*  
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**For me** – this is the **most confrontational** thing He has said so far

- My natural man doesn't have a passive corpuscle in my being

*But Jesus isn't talking about passivity here.*

**He isn't passive. He is active & powerful!**

- He's talking about **purposeful conviction & commitment**
  - **To Him** – in His behalf
- .....

*The world around us is accusing and dividing as never before in our lives*

**I Corinthians 12:27**, "Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually."

*All the reasons for dividing are **Violations of Who He Is!***

**Vs. 38-48** contain all the attributes of **Vs. 3-10**  
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**Proverbs 24:29**, Don't say, "I'll do to him what he did to me; I'll repay the man for what he has done."

**Acts 7:60** (Stephen), He fell to his knees, shouting, "Lord, don't charge them with this sin!" And with that, he died.

**Romans 12:17-21** (Read)

**Galatians 5:14**, For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

**I Thessalonians 5:15**, See to it that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all.

**I Peter 3:9**, Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.  
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**Vs. 48**, "Be **perfect**, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

**Perfect** = Complete, as the **moral & mental** point aimed at...

- The conclusion or result of **the ultimate purpose**

**What are we aiming at? (Target practice)**

- Beginning with the end in mind
- Question about Honda quality

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**Do we aim too low?**

**Can we aim too high?**

**What is Christ calling us to?**

- How should we adjust our sights?

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*The Pharisees demanded perfect conformity to **their standards***

**God wants perfect aim at His**

*Practice, practice, practice...*