

Lex Talionis
Matthew 5:38-42 (ESV)

Scriptural Questions

- Try and locate where this teaching is in relation to the rest of the Sermon on the Mount. Do you notice anything interesting about where it is situated?
- What was the original intent of “eye for an eye”?
- What does it mean to slap someone on the right cheek?
- What was the original context of the other two illustrations? Why would it be important for a modern reader to understand the original meaning?

Reflection Questions:

- How does Jesus’ teaching on this ethic “fulfill” the Torah?
- What was Jesus trying to call his disciples to do in this passage?
- What is the root heart issue that causes us to seek retaliation?
- How might the Gospel change the way we understand retaliation?