

October 29, 2017

Sermon Notes

I Have My Rights, 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

Philippians 2:6-8 NLT

6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, 8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Matthew 5:11-12 NLT

11 "God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. 12 Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

Matthew 5:47 MSG

47 "You're familiar with the old written law, 'Love your friend,' and its unwritten companion, 'Hate your enemy.' I'm challenging that. I'm telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves. This is what God does. He gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that.

Romans 5:10 NLT

10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.

2 Timothy 1:7 ESV

7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

1 John 4:18 ESV

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

Matthew 26:52 ESV

52 Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword.

"When Jesus disarmed Peter, he disarmed every Christian."

Jesus and his apostles, when faced with violence, did not defend themselves. Jesus did not defend himself when he was taken to the cross. The apostles did not defend themselves when they were executed. He radically loved and cared even about the humanity of his killers. As he hung on the cross, he cried out "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). It was this sacrificial love that changed the world.

It couldn't be clearer that people can kill more people more efficiently with guns than with almost anything else that is commercially available in the United States.

Gary Younge, *Another Day in the Death of America*

Philippians 2:4 ESV

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.