

# RETALIATION

By  
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# *Law taught an “eye for an eye”*

- Exodus 21:24-25. Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.
- Leviticus 24:20. Fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; as he has caused disfigurement of a man, so shall it be done to him.
- Deut. 19:21. Your eye shall not pity: life *shall be* for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.
- **It was to ensure that the punishment fit the crime**

# *Jesus says*

- “But I tell you not to resist an evil person.”
- Yet
  - Other passages urge resistance of evil and even of evil men (Gal. 2:3-5, 11; Titus 1:9-11)
  - Jesus cleansed the temple (Jno. 2:13-16)
- What then? “Jesus is condemning the spirit of hatred, yearning for revenge...”

# Examples

- “But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”
- “If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have *your* cloak also.”
- “And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two”
- Refuse not a borrower

# *Illustrations of the spirit Jesus commends*

- Abraham rushing to rescue his nephew Lot (Gen. 13:7-9; 14:14-16)
- Joseph forgiving his brothers (Gen. 50:19-21)
- David twice sparing the life of his pursuer King Saul (1 Sam. 24:4; 26:7-9)
- Stephen interceding for those who had stoned him (Acts 7:60)
- Jesus praying, “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Lk. 23:34)