"THE GREATEST SERMON EVER #8: Vows & Vengeance"

Text: Matthew 5

Vows & Vengeance"

1. Necessary Oaths are not <u>Sinful; False</u> Oaths are (vv 33-36; Numbers 30:2)

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Matt. 5:33 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.'

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³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,

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³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great



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³⁶ And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

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Numbers 30:2 If a man vows a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

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2. Truth: Your Word Is(!) Your Bond (v 37; James 5:12)

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³⁷Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

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James 5:12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

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3. God Expects Government to Judge Fairly and Judicially (v 38)

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³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

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4. Self/Family Defense is 100% **Biblical - But We Must Not Retaliate for Christian Persecution** $(vv \ 39-41)$

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³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

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⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.

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41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

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5. Always Be Ready to Help the TRULY Needy and Defenseless (v 42)

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⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

YOUR WORD IS YOUR BOND