

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LIFE OF JESUS

RLJ-1713

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PART 10: GOD & NATIONALISM

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

Jesus wants every Christian to love their enemies. The Talmud and the Kabbalah advocate loving their neighbors and hating their enemies. The command to hate your enemies is not found anywhere in the Old Testament, but at the time of Jesus, this was the understanding of the Jewish people. **Matthew 5:43**

Jesus offended the Zealots, Pharisees, Sadducees and the Herodians when He instructed His followers to begin loving their enemies. In their eyes, Jesus was nothing more than a traitor. **verse 44-46**

There is no reward when you love those who love you, but there will be a reward when you are able to love your enemies in spite of their ill treatment. **verses 47-48**

RESPECT ONE ANOTHER

Communities and churches are built upon respect. Humanity is made in the image of God. **Genesis 1:26-27**

Every person you meet and interact with is made in the image of God. Thus, if you respect God, you must respect all people. You don't have to agree with them, but you must treat everyone with respect. A police officer must treat a criminal respectfully as he is taken into custody. We have the right to reject sinful lifestyles, but we should never despise anyone. **Ephesians 5:1-12; Titus 3:8-11**

God wants you to be a giver. **Luke 6:30**

Treat others the same way you want to be treated. **verse 31**

Overcome evil with love. **verses 32-35**

Always be merciful. **verse 36**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?

