

KINGDOM of GOD

“LOVE YOUR ENEMIES” Msg. #18

Matthew 5:43-48

Introduction:

I. Most people believe it's their God-given right to choose whom they will _____. v.43

A. For those who believe this way, the choice isn't difficult.

1. Some people are _____ to love.

2. Others are _____ to love.

3. And most people—even those who are religious—are okay with this.

II. Jesus commands His followers to love _____—even their enemies. vv.44, 46-47

A. There are at least three ways to love those we'd rather hate:
(See Luke 6:27-28)

1. We can do _____ to them.

2. We can be _____ to them.

3. We can _____ for them.

B. When we only love selectively, we're actually _____ than those we don't love at all.
vv.46-47

1. This is a shallow and fruitless way to live.

III. When we love those we'd rather not, we _____ something of the nature of God.vv.45, 48

A. His love is revealed through His _____. v.45a

B. His love knows no _____.

C. His love is _____; transforming His children into His very likeness.