



“Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth; break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.” Psalm 58:6

Anger causes prayers to be uttered that aren't necessarily prayers born in heaven. Such prayer spoken in haste is often regretted later. “The anger of man does not work the righteousness of God.” (James 1:20) Jesus, knowing that the human frame is designed to react, gives us a simple, yet effective way of reacting that flows with His grace rather than with our anger. “You have heard it said, ‘You have heard that it was said, ‘an eye for an eye, and a tooth for an eye.’ “But I say to you, do not resist him who is evil; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also.” (Matthew 5:38-39). In obeying Jesus we position ourselves for His immeasurable grace to flow both to ourselves and to our enemy. In such Christian grace Jesus is glorified and we are freed from the prison of resentment and anger, meanwhile becoming a vessel of conviction for the Holy Spirit to speak to our enemies.

Understanding the believer's response to our enemies is certainly an important aspect of Christian living, but for the disciple of the Word a question – an honest question remains... “But did not David under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit utter this prayer?” Let's not hide behind theological mumbo jumbo – yes, he did! What then or how then are we to pray? The standard answer is this, David was led of the Holy Spirit in his praying, and yes, there is a time to pray such prayers! Yet for our purposes today, learn this... Obey Jesus first in turning the other cheek and in blessing your enemy. Once our hearts are free from malice, the Holy Spirit can pray through us prayers of truth that will bring His Kingdom to the earth, even to the knocking out of the great teeth of the young lions!

When we are right before God, when our hearts have been emptied of hatred, we are thus positioned to speak and pray from another dimension.

Is your heart free of malice, of anger, of resentment, of revenge?

“Lord, make me like Jesus! I receive and yield to Your indwelling power to put me over the weaknesses and temptations of my old nature.”

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