

**JESUS**  
*SAID WH@T!?*

# Matthew

## 10:32-38

examining the hard teachings of Jesus

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# Faith in the Family

examining the hard teachings of Jesus

This isn't gonna be a ***JESUS*** is it?



<sup>32</sup> “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup> *“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

35 For I have come to turn 'a man  
against his father, a daughter  
against her mother, a daughter-in-  
law against her mother-in-law—

36 a man's enemies will be the  
members of his own  
household' (*Micah 7:6*)

<sup>37</sup> “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

# **Did Jesus come to bring peace or sword?**

I love the honesty of the Bible! Just because you love Jesus doesn't mean that you'll get a life free of circumstantial or relational pain. Jesus was perfect and he got plenty of both. Jesus is telling the truth, the whole truth about reality of life.

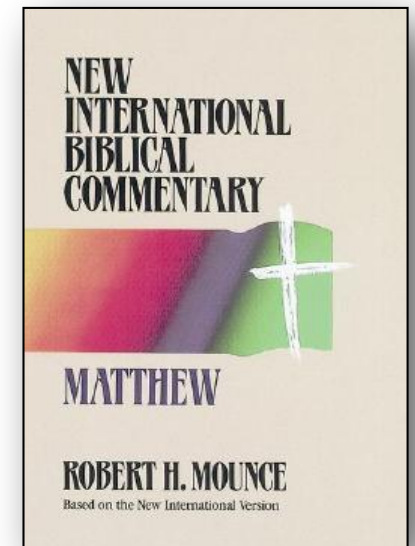


# **Did Jesus come to bring peace or sword ?**

In this passage Jesus is reminding us that we should not be surprised that making Jesus our highest priority (worship) can be like sword, bring separation between family, friends and co-workers that don't have Him as their highest priority.



“The issue is one of priorities: our commitment to Christ must be greater than to anyone else. Jesus is not counseling his followers to ride rough shot over family relationships or responsibility. *The point is that when a person pledge of solidarity with Christ and his mission, nothing - not even the love of a family member can stand in the way. Taking up our cross means to follow in the path of a master.*” Page 98



## **Division: Is it caused by Jesus or me?**

When relationships experience friction or division it is worth examining whether it is because of the priorities of Jesus in my life that naturally may not be celebrated by others, ***or was it simply my own questionable behavior?*** It is irresponsible to excuse our own questionable behavior on the basis of Jesus' teaching about division in this passage.



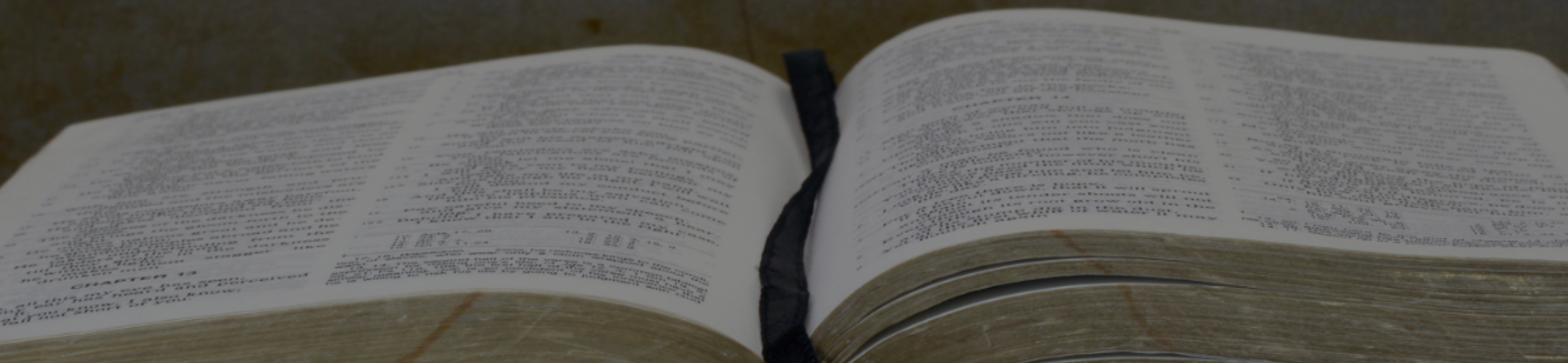
1Peter 4:15 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> *If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler.* <sup>16</sup> However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

(Also 1Peter 2:19-20)





Romans 12:18 so far as it  
depends on you, live  
peaceably with all people.



# **Faith in Family (Jesus' and ours)**

We must not fall into the trap of thinking that because we'll experience some relational division that we should only focus on a personal relationship with God. Nothing could be farther from the Bible teaches!

The Bible makes clear that loving God means we love others - it's one of the premier traits of His family! Our example of faithfulness to one another comes from Jesus's faithfulness to us.

John 13:34-45 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."



John 17:20-22 20 "I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one. Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one — <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me — so that they may be brought to complete unity.

Romans 14:19 Let us

therefore make every effort

to do what leads to peace and

to mutual edification.

Rom. 15:5    May the God  
who gives endurance and  
encouragement give you a spirit  
of unity among yourselves as  
you follow Christ Jesus

Eph. 4:3 Make every effort  
to keep the unity of the Spirit  
through the bond of peace.

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and  
forgive one another if any of you has a  
grievance against someone. **Forgive as the**  
**Lord forgave you.** <sup>14</sup> And over all these  
virtues put on love, which binds them all  
together in perfect **unity.**

1Cor. 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in  
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all  
of you agree with one another so that there  
may be no divisions among you and that you  
may be perfectly united in mind and thought



1Cor. 12:12&25 The body is a unit,  
though it is made up of many parts;  
and though all its parts are many, they  
form **one body**.<sup>25</sup> ... there should be  
**no division** in the body.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brothers  
and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full  
restoration, encourage one another,  
be of one mind, live in peace.

Philippians 2:1-2. Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, **being one in spirit and of one mind.**

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# communion

