

Matthew 5:33-48

Jesus Forbids Oaths

Go the Second Mile

Love Your Enemies

Matthew 5:33-37 – Jesus Forbids Oaths

Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.’ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Exodus 20:7

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Also:

- Leviticus 19:12
- Numbers 30:3-15
- Deuteronomy 23:21-22

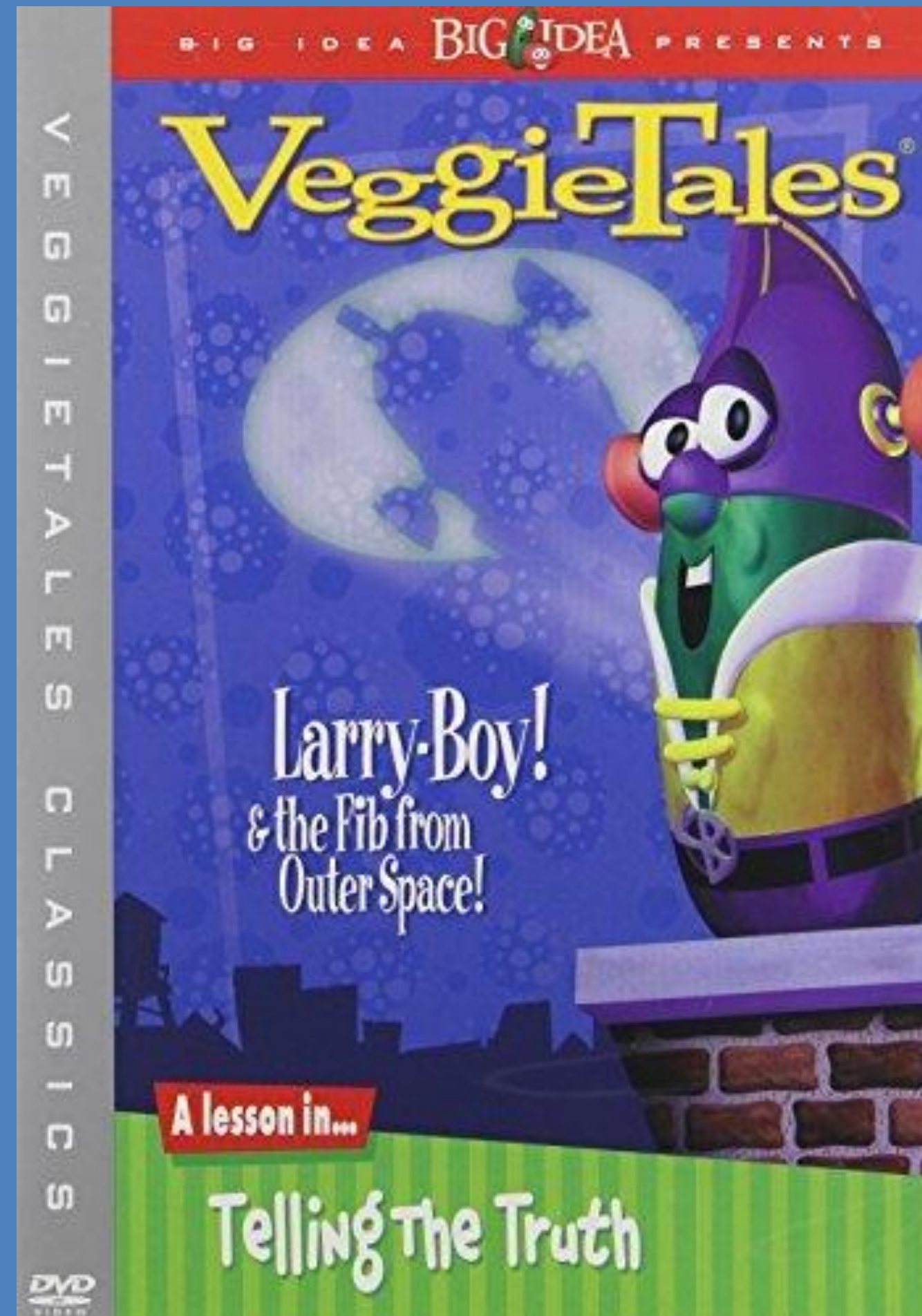
Matthew 23:16-22

Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.' Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.' Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? Therefore he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it. He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it. And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits on it.

Oswald Chambers

- If you can find eight or more reasons for the truth of what you say, it is proof that what you say is not strictly true, if it were, you would never have to find the reasons to prove it.
- It never occurs to a pure honest heart to back up what it says, it is a wounding insult to be met with suspicion, and that is why from the first we ought never to submit a child to suspicion.

Veggie Tales – Telling The Truth
Larry-Boy and the Fib from Outer Space



Matthew 5:38-42 – Go the Second Mile

You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

Eye for an Eye

- Exodus 21:23-25
- Exodus 24:17-21
- Deuteronomy 19:21
- You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18

Isaiah 50:6

I gave My back to those who struck Me,
And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard;
I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

Luke 23:34

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.

Visible Participation in His Cross

Only those who there, in the cross of Jesus, find faith in the victory over evil can obey his command.

Discipleship – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1 Peter 2:21-23

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

“Who committed no sin,

Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;

who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when

He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to

Him who judges righteously;

Romans 12:17-21

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Therefore

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

If he is thirsty, give him a drink;

For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” (Prov 25:21-22)

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 5:43-48 – Love Your Enemies

You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Wrong Way to Love Your Enemies – From Social Media

I wish that all of my enemies had three cars parked in front of their house:

- an ambulance,
- a fire truck,
- and a police car.

Jesus' Love of His Enemies – From Social Media

When you learn how to sit at the table with your Judas,
you'll understand the love of Christ.

anonymous – from social media

Loving Your Enemies Sermon – Martin Luther King

Wrestling with the questions of why and how Christians are to love, Martin Luther King described how ‘hate only intensifies the existence of hate . . . in a descending spiral, ... ending in destruction for all ... But it is even more tragic, ... ruinous and injurious to the individual who hates’ as to the victim. But above all, ‘love is the only creative, redemptive, transforming power in the universe.’ It is capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Romans 3:9-26

we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

As it is written:

“There is none righteous, no, not one;

There is none who understands;

There is none who seeks after God.

They have all turned aside;

They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one.”

Romans 3:9-26

“Their throat is an open tomb;

With their tongues they have practiced deceit”;

“The poison of asps is under their lips”;

“Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.”

“Their feet are swift to shed blood;

Destruction and misery are in their ways;

And the way of peace they have not known.”

“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Romans 3:9-26

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

Romans 3:9-26

For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

John Stott

Only a belief in the need and the possibility of a new birth can keep us from reading the Sermon on the Mount with either foolish optimism or hopeless despair.

John 3:3 Paraphrase by Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones

Do not think of it in terms of what you can do; you cannot do anything; you must be born again.

Luke 18:27

The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

Summary

- We have to die to self so that we can live in Christ.
- We're new creatures belonging to a different kingdom
- We see things differently and, therefore, should react differently.

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20