



Daily Verse and Comment

[Luke 6:27-38](#)

(27) But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you. (28) Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who despitefully use you. (29) If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other cheek also; and if anyone takes your cloak, do not forbid your coat also. (30) Give to everyone who asks you; and if anyone takes what is yours, do not ask for it back. (31) And exactly as you would have men do to you, you do the same to them also. (32) But if you love only those who love you, what praise is it to you? For even sinners love those who love them. (33) And if you do good only to those who are doing good to you, what praise is it to you? For even sinners do the same. (34) And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what praise is it to you? For even sinners lend to sinners, that they may receive as much again. (35) But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and you shall be the children of the Highest; for He is good to the unthankful and the wicked. (36) Therefore, you also be compassionate, even as your Father is compassionate. (37) And do not judge others, so that you yourself will not be judged in any way. Do not condemn others, so that you will not be condemned in any way. Forgive, and you shall be forgiven. (38) Give, and it shall be given to you. Good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over, shall they give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you mete out, it shall be measured again to you."

A Faithful Version

[Jesus](#) emphasizes giving, not just to those who [love](#) us, but also those who hate us, curse us, despise us, and persecute us.

Jesus is letting us know that godly giving contains an element that separates it from the common sorts of charity. We know this as *agape* love—a kind of love that can be done without emotion, if need be. It is a kind of love that

does for another what is truly best for that person rather than what will make that person happy. It is a love that looks beyond present circumstances toward the ultimate realization of the act, primarily toward the effect of our own behavior.

It is not just a love that, out of concern, gives to somebody to plug a gap and that only. It is a type of love done with a great deal of thought, in which a person thinks through the effects and consequences of his actions to their ultimate end. Therefore, the result is that he does good for the other person whether that person likes it or not.

Of course, [God](#) would want us to do these acts of *agape* love with a great deal of feeling out of true concern. So, it should not be a cold love. But, if necessary, it can be.

It is a love with which one must be very careful. If we read between the lines here in Luke 6, we can see that Jesus is aiming for the [Kingdom of God](#), not for somebody's temporary help. Why would one do good to those that hate him or to someone who curses him or persecutes him unless there was an ultimate, good end for that other person?

A person who performs an act of *agape* love makes a witness so that in the end it will come to the other's mind in the resurrection—it might take that long—and help to convert him. It will make a stunning impact on that person's mind that this was a Christian practicing love and true good works.

Jesus mentions that in godly giving there is greater merit when there is no hope of repayment or even of gratitude because it is done selflessly. There is nothing coming back to pay or repay one for his sacrifice or gift. He is quick to say, "Look, if you do it this way, there are good returns! There are rewards!" But going into it, a Christian must not have those things in mind.

Godly living is done without respect of persons. It is done in mercy, love, and [kindness](#), as He says in the Golden Rule, just as we would like to be treated. It is done without condemnation and thus done out of a [pure heart](#) that truly desires the other's well-being.

— Richard T. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

["If I Have Not Charity"](#)



Related Topics:

[Agape Love](#)

[Charity](#)

[Enemies, Loving](#)

[Godly Love](#)

[If I Have Not Charity](#)

[Mercy](#)

[Outgoing Concern](#)

[Selflessness](#)