

NON-RESISTANCE AND THE
NEW TESTAMENT

1. Return good for evil, overcome evil by doing good – Matt. 5-7;
Romans 12:14-21
2. Love your enemies and do good to those that persecute you –
Matt. 5:11-12, 43ff; 1 Peter 4:12-19
3. As Believers, our citizenship is in heaven not in this world.
John 18:33-38; here we are aliens and exiles – 1 Peter 2:11-12; John
17:15-19
4. The sanctity of life. Every human is made in the image of God
therefore we as Christians have no right to take a human life under
any circumstances. Matt. 5:21-26; Romans 12:19; Ex. 20:13
5. The Golden Rule: “So whatever you wish that men would do
to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.” Matt. 7:12
6. We are instruments of God’s love and grace (Matt. 28:18-20)
and not His wrath. Rom. 13:1-7, 1:18-32. We are God’s ambassadors
7. The newer and clearer revelation is found in the New
Testament – Matt. 7:17, 5-7; Heb. 11:1-2; John 7:39; Eph. 3:4ff. Thus
the lifestyle and teaching of Jesus is our guide. Would Jesus have
picked up a gun under any circumstances – for war, for protection, in
defence of someone else? 1 Peter 2:23, “When they hurled their
insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no
threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.”
8. Believers cannot divide their right and wrong actions
between personal and professional. What is wrong for me personally
is also wrong for me as a professional. Matt. 7:12, 22:39; Rom. 13:8;
Gal. 5:14-15

IS NON-RESISTANCE
PRACTICAL FOR TODAY?

I. YES BECAUSE:

1. That is what the Bible teaches.
2. Love is the greatest power or force you and I can
exercise.
3. It is the lifestyle of Jesus who is our example.

II. SOME IMPLICATIONS FOR US

1. Do not take revenge – Personal or corporate.
2. Do not insist on your own rights.
3. Stand up for the Truth.
4. As much as lies in you, live at peace with
everybody.
5. Expect plenty of opposition – Jesus said,
“In this world you shall have trouble,”
and “They have hated me and they
will hate you.”

III. IMPORTANT BIBLICAL ASSUMPTION

The most important thing for me as a Christian,
is *not to stay alive, BUT TO BE OBEDIENT*