



## Scriptures and Doctrine :: What Did Jesus Mean Here?

**What Did Jesus Mean Here?, on: 2014/9/6 8:59**

Matthew 26:52

Then jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword."

Brethren what did Jesus mean here?

Bearmaster

**Re: What Did Jesus Mean Here? - posted by dfella (), on: 2014/9/6 9:54**

Bear,

I believe Jesus meant this:

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Revelation 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Another thought that comes to mind is the law of sowing and reaping, if we are willing to kill, we better be prepared to be killed, and I am not just talking about the killing of our bodies, but having our souls cast into the lake of fire.

This might be different than what you may be thinking, but I trust you get what I mean.

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2014/9/6 14:01**

I think Jesus was saying, quite accurately, that the disciples had no chance to win any battles against their enemies. They were hopelessly outnumbered and any show of force with arms by the disciples would surely result in their deaths.

To put it in the vernacular, "put away your swords guys. You'll get yourselves killed."

He didn't want them killed before their time. They still had a Church to birth.

**Re: , on: 2014/9/6 14:40**

Defella,

I agree with your post bro.

Blaine

**Re: , on: 2014/9/6 14:43**

TMK agree with your observation. So do you think the command to put the sword away applies to us today?

Bear

**Re: What Did Jesus Mean Here? - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2014/9/6 15:00**

I wonder why Peter had a sword in the first place?

Ron

**Re: , on: 2014/9/6 15:07**

Ron,

Probably he was going to defend Jesus or defend himself. Remember Peter was operating in the flesh. Also Peter had forgotten what Jesus had taught in the Sermon on the Mount about loving one's enemies.

Bear

**Re: What Did Jesus Mean Here?, on: 2014/9/6 16:59**

WHAT DID JESUS MEAN HERE:

"Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword."

Here is my take on this text:

1. "Put your sword back into its place."

Paraphrasing Jesus: "Peter, that sword that you have just used to cut that guys ear off...um, PUT it back RIGHT NOW dude...hurry!"

Why?

2. "For all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword."

Paraphrasing Jesus: "Pete, you just broke the age old rule of never bring a knife to a gunfight cause you'll lose every time. If you keep this up and try to take his other ear off, these guys are going to mess you up big time, and that goes for all you guys, they outnumber you, are better trained and have armor."

There is absolutely NO hidden meaning to this, no references to Genesis or Revelations etc, just a common sense warning to his buddies at this time and place.

btw, I reckon if Jesus had not healed the soldiers ear, Peter would have been killed! When Jesus intervened, He diffused the whole situation...not only did Peter NOT get messed up, but the soldiers let him get away. Major score for Jesus!

What Jesus DID NOT SAY is that if anyone ever uses a sword or any kind of weapon in their lives, that they would die a violent death at the hand of weapons, although the likelihood would increase dramatically. My grandfather fought and killed nazis during WW2 and died 30 years later from a heart attack. My grandma would cook minced beef every night in a frypan (they were poor) and sop up the fat for him with bread...death by cholesterol at 53 years of age!!!

Having said that, there is an application for us today, although it is not very deep. Putting our sword away today means for us that there is a time and place for everything. It simply means, use a little common sense, do a threat assessment... if you are outnumbered and outgunned, think it through very carefully. And that doesn't just apply to physical force either, it can also apply to the way we interact with all those we perceive as a threat. Sometimes we find ourselves in situations where we should "fight" because it is the right thing to do, but there are other times when we need to bite our tongue and live to "fight" another day.

Re: put up thy sword! - posted by savannah, on: 2014/9/6 17:48

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: Romans 13:1-3

For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.  
Romans 13:4

Jesus was not addressing the above when in the garden with Peter. But it certainly is addressed here by Paul in no uncertain terms.

Paul says in Acts 20, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole counsel of God."

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. Isaiah 28:9,10

You shun to declare the whole counsel of God! And what you wind up with is watching your own women and children being slaughtered and your virgin daughters being raped.

Again I say to you, go and learn what this meaneth...

For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.  
Romans 13:4

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Governments(whether they be good or evil)are ordained of God. Whatever power they have has been given by God.

Hear Jesus,

Then saith Pilate to him, Speakest thou not to me? knowest thou not, that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? Jesus answered, Thou couldst have no power against me; except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me to thee hath the greater sin. John 19:10,11

If men and women would keep to their own calling we'd be done with such idiocy as we observe and read about.

I'm not the president of the U.S. nor are any of you. I am not a woman and so I do not attempt to follow any calling a woman is called to by God. I am not an employer or business owner therefore I leave them to their callings whether I agree with them or no. Do you know what your calling is? Then by all means fulfill the same by God's grace.

Put up thy sword and fight the good fight of faith where you are and with what you've been given.

May God give all of us the grace to hear as well as the grace to heed.

**Re: - posted by Giggles (), on: 2014/9/7 8:20**

Why might Peter have had the sword? The Lord did instruct them to buy swords in Luke 22:36. And they did have 2 swords already (v. 38), so maybe he brought it in hopes of obeying Christ's words.

**Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2014/9/8 10:10**

Awakened,

I really must pick you up on your paraphrase and what you suggested Jesus meant. You have put word's in the Lord's mouth that he never said and I don't think He ever meant (like many paraphrases). I for one find it offensive and also twisting what was actually said.

What Jesus DID NOT SAY was "Don't use your sword because they are bigger than you". The implication being that if Peter had a weaker opponent then yes he could strike with his sword! NO way did he say that! you make Jesus sound like he was the leader of a revolutionary gang! Exactly what the leaders of the day mistakenly thought as well.

What Jesus DID SAY " He who lives by the sword will die by the sword". It really is not difficult to understand this. The clue is in "lives by". In other words if someone lives their lives by meeting every opposition by wielding a sword then ultimately there is a good chance they will die by the same. "What you sow you reap!".

We often say similar things like "If you run out in that road you will get run over". We don't mean that any one who runs across a road will get run over, but we know what is meant.

So obviously Jesus did not mean that anyone who uses a weapon for any reason will die by similar means or that all resistance or armed forces are wrong. I am not a proponent of non-resistance or against legitimate use of force when needed by governments etc, but this is not what this is about.

Do we read anywhere of Peter or the other disciples taking up weapons after this to defend themselves? No, not in my bible! How could we ever come to the conclusion that Christians should prepare to defend themselves and their communities with weapons? This is just alien to the New Testament record and church history. What witness does this give unbelievers, that we should be fighting to hang on to life on earth. Do we really believe that we have an eternal home being prepared for us that is far better than what we have here?

I remember hearing the testimony of an Iranian Pastor, who stood publicly in calling for the release from prison of one of his flock. He said he knew this put him on the danger list for assassination, but gave a sermon about how he was prepared to lay down his life for his brother and death would be like just going into the room next door. A few weeks later he was killed and entered into the joy of his Lord. 'He did NOT say 'I'm ready for the assassins, I've got my gun and I'll go down fighting!' God forbid, No!

**Re: What Did Jesus Mean Here? - posted by proudpapa, on: 2014/9/8 12:20**

///Matthew 26:52///

Many Christians, including the various Preachers and even moderators on SI have conflicting views and understandings in regards to the issues of pacifism and nonresistance.

An honest unbiased conclusion would agree that the New Testament is unclear on the issue.

Could this be because different times and different peoples in different situations might be led differently ?,

**Re: Gentle Jesus - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2014/9/10 0:01**

As the spectre of global violence rises, perhaps it is more and more necessary to understand the different ways Christians prepare themselves for physical conflict. We in the Western world are not immune to this, chatting comfortably about it may soon end.

There are both swords of offense, and swords of defense. Jesus spoke of both in His parables, and it is really not possible from the scriptures to assert that passive submission is the only Christ-like response to violent aggression. When you think about it, Jesus' little visit to the temple in John 2:15 where He assembled the cords into a whip and started swinging was more aggressive than defensive. Wonder what He might have done with a sword if He'd had one??

Ecclesiastes 3:3 says there is a time to heal and a time to kill, in that order I have noticed. Having experienced both of those times, I believe that the most important thing is to learn to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, and obey from there. There here is a time to turn the other cheek, and a time to "Go up, for the LORD will deliver them into your hand."

Bloodshed may be involved, but we are called to be instruments in God's hand. For me, when it was time to kill, it was as normal as possible in the stress of war. I am grateful to God that I did not have to pull that trigger, but I carry an intense recollection of that time and what it felt like.

Healing is always better...

Somebody put up some sage advice on a marquee sign:

"When attacked by a mob of clowns, go for the juggler..."

**Re: - posted by Sree (), on: 2014/9/10 2:44**

Jesus did not have any fear of his disciples being out-numbered! It is funny to even think like that. The command was simple. The sword that Jesus asked his disciples to have is only for defense and not for attack. Peter was attacking the soldier here. We are not called to take an attacking stance in any issue.

**Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2014/9/10 4:46**

Apart from the instance of Peter in the garden, where Jesus told him not to, can anyone give me just ONE example in the New Testament of a disciple of Christ using a weapon to defend themselves or this being suggested? If you can I might consider the position some are taking here. I cannot think of one instance in the gospels, Acts or letters.

The church in China is growing and flourishing. The churches in the former Soviet nations are also growing and flourishing. This despite years of oppression and martyrdom. How did they succeed? By establishing a militia and fighting back? No, the Lord said He would build His church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it! Nothing can defeat a church or Christian that fully submits to Christ. But if we take up our own defense in the flesh we are already defeated.