

Evil and Wickedness in the Gospels

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled "Evil and Wickedness—Part 4." The focus of this study was about evil and wickedness in the Gospel writings.

Various categories

Notice some of the various categories where the subjects of evil and wickedness could be placed.

- The evil one—Matthew 5:37, Matthew 6:13, Luke 11:4 and John 17:15.
- Evil spirits—Luke 7:21 and Luke 8:2.
- Evil generation seeks a sign—Matthew 12:39 and Luke 11:29.
- Evil mentioned in parables—Matthew 20:15 and Luke 16:25.
- Is it lawful to do good or evil on the Sabbath day?—Mark 3:4 and Luke 6:9.
- Pilate asked what evil Christ had done—Matthew 27:23, Mark 15:14 and Luke 23:22.

Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:11—"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake."

Luke 6:22—"Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake."

Matthew 5:39—"But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."

Matthew 5:45—"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."

Luke 6:35—"But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil."

Matthew 7:11—"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"

From the heart

Mark 7:21-23—"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

Luke 6:43-45—"For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

Other valuable references

Mark 9:38-39—"Now John answered Him, saying, 'Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me.' "

John 3:19-20—"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."

John 7:7—"The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil."

John 18:23—"Jesus answered him, 'If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?' "