



Be Perfect

as your heavenly Father is perfect

How Can I Be Perfect?

I am sure you have thought or had someone say,
“You have to be good to go to heaven.”

Someone may have quoted Jesus in Matthew 5:48.

“Be perfect...as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

And you wondered, “How can I ever be that perfect?”







Sabbath's Sermon

I heard a sermon this weekend where the pastor said,

*“Jesus covers our sins,
so the Father sees us as perfect.”*

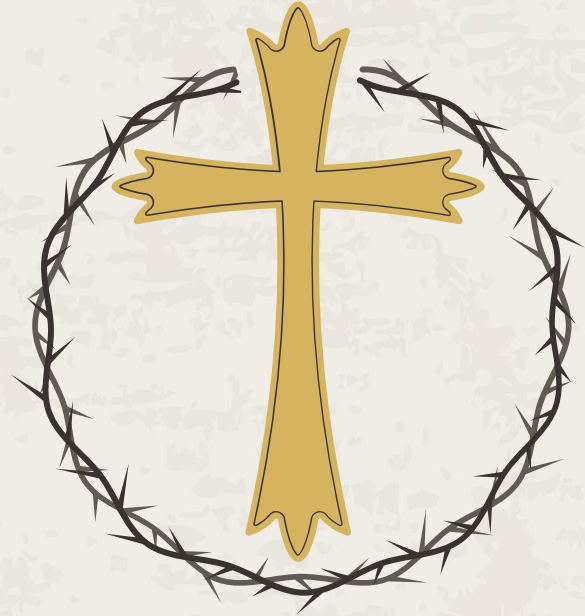




Wait!

Are we saying Jesus tricks
His Father into seeing us as
something we are not?

Does He lie to His Father
about our goodness?





Matthew 5:38-48

““You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people,

What are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?”





Then Jesus adds,

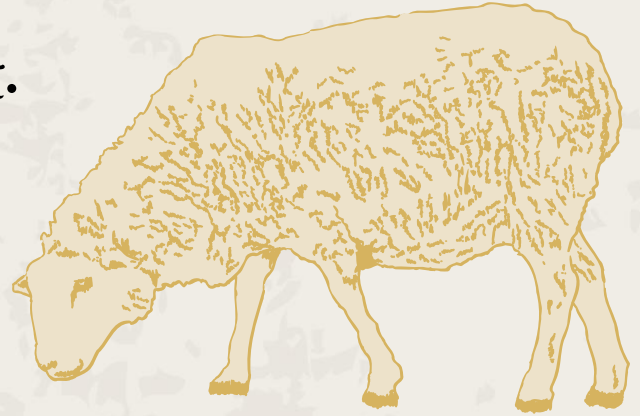
Be perfect...

*as your heavenly Father
is perfect.*

Did you notice that Jesus is not talking about
knowing doctrines, following the rules,
or making His Father think you are perfect.

He is talking about Loving.
Loving your neighbor.
Loving those who make trouble for you.
Loving without knowing you'll get things back.

God's Love makes us perfect.

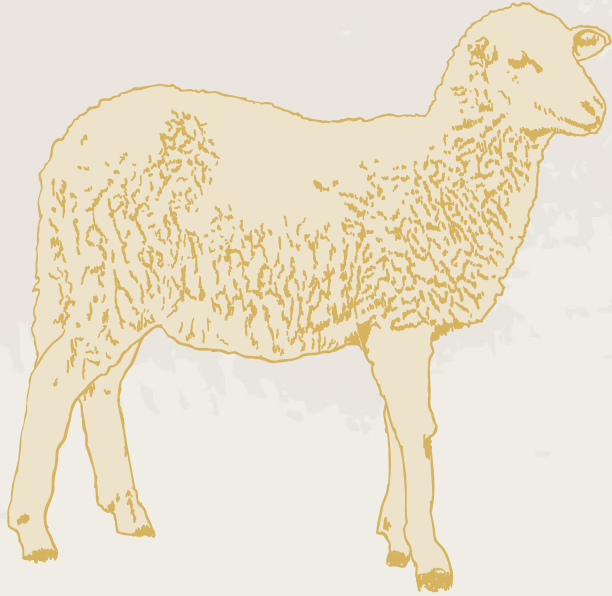


“Be perfect...
as your heavenly
Father is perfect”





The Bible Teaches Love



Jesus is telling us to love as God loves.
It's not about following rules.
It's about the only way to be
truly happy and fulfilled.



When Jesus died on the cross,
He forgave **everyone**, even those
who nailed Him there. He forgave
those of us who continued sinning.
Not sinning may be impossible for
me, but when I learn to love the
way God loves, my actions begin to
change. I may not be able to act
perfectly today, but I am growing,
and I can love perfectly, like my
Heavenly Father.

We can show
God's perfect love!





The End

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Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

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