

SETTLE MATTERS QUICKLY

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Additional materials to consider concerning Christian ethics,
moral standards and lifestyle.

I was asked about this and wanted to follow-up with a quick study guide to help answer the question on what it means. In a section of scripture where Jesus is actually raising the standards from physical “*you have heard it said,*” to a higher spiritual level, “*But I tell you,*” he tells us how to handle matters of disagreement that are going to court with an adversary.

Matthew 5. 25-26 “*Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.*”

Answer the following questions to understand the lesson Jesus is teaching to His followers.

- Who is in the wrong in this story Jesus told? How do you know?

- What should the person who is the wrong do before the case comes before the judge?

- If the person cannot settle out of court what will happen?

- Will the judge care whether either party is a believer or a non-believer? Why is this important to remember?

- Why is this different than when Jesus tells you to “turn the other cheek?” Matthew 5.39

- How is this different than when Jesus tells you to go to a brother who has something against you? Matthew 5.23-24

- How can settling out of court HELP the witness or testimony of a believer?

- How can NOT settling out of court HURT the witness or testimony of a believer?