

Luke 6:20-49

Jesus' ministry in Galilee: the Sermon on the Plain

Audience

The great reversal

The Beatitudes

The weeping

Reason

Blessing stated

The hungry

Reason

Blessing stated

The poor

Reason

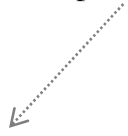
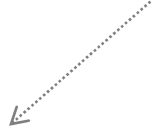
Blessing stated

²⁰ And he
lifted up
his eyes
on his disciples, and
said,

Blessed
be ye
poor:
for
yours
is the kingdom
of God.

²¹ Blessed
are ye
that hunger now:
for
ye
shall be filled.

Blessed
are ye
that weep now:
for
ye
shall laugh.



The great reversal (continued)

The Beatitudes (continued)

The hated and rejected

Response
commanded

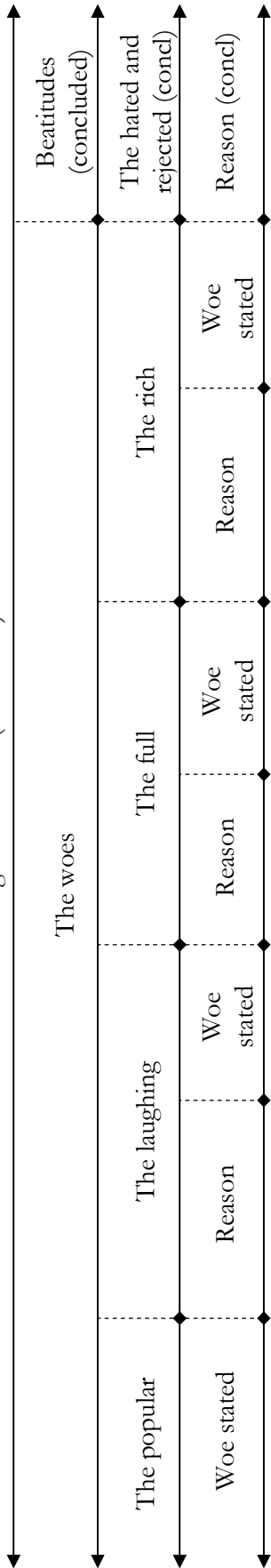
Reason

Blessing stated

²² Blessed
are ye,
when
men
shall hate
you, and
when
they
shall separate
you *from their company*, and
shall reproach
you, and
cast out
your name
as evil,
for
the Son of man's
sake.

²³ Rejoice ye
in that day, and
leap
for joy:
for,
behold,
your reward
is great
in heaven:

The great reversal (continued)



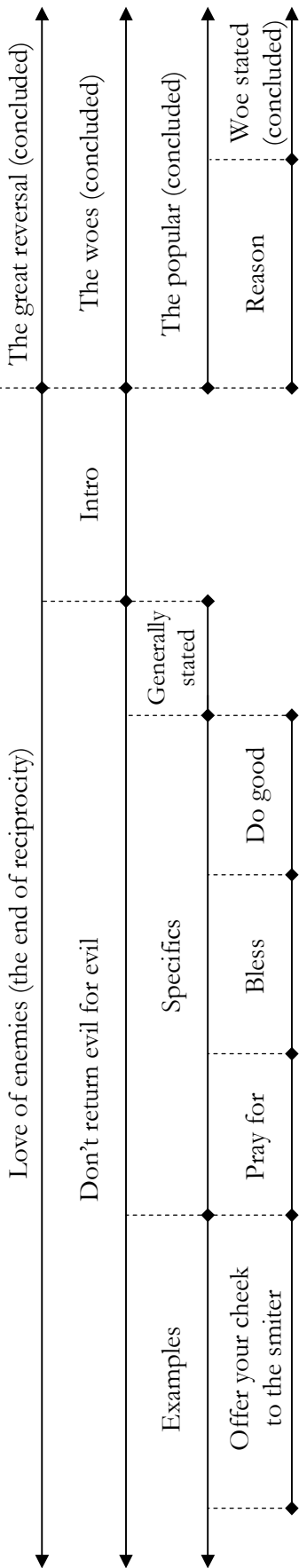
for
in the like manner
did their fathers
unto the prophets.

²⁴ But woe
unto you
that are rich!
for
ye
have received
your consolation.

²⁵ Woe
unto you
that are full!
for
ye
shall hunger.

Woe
unto you
that laugh now!
for
ye shall
mourn and
weep.

²⁶ Woe
unto you,
when

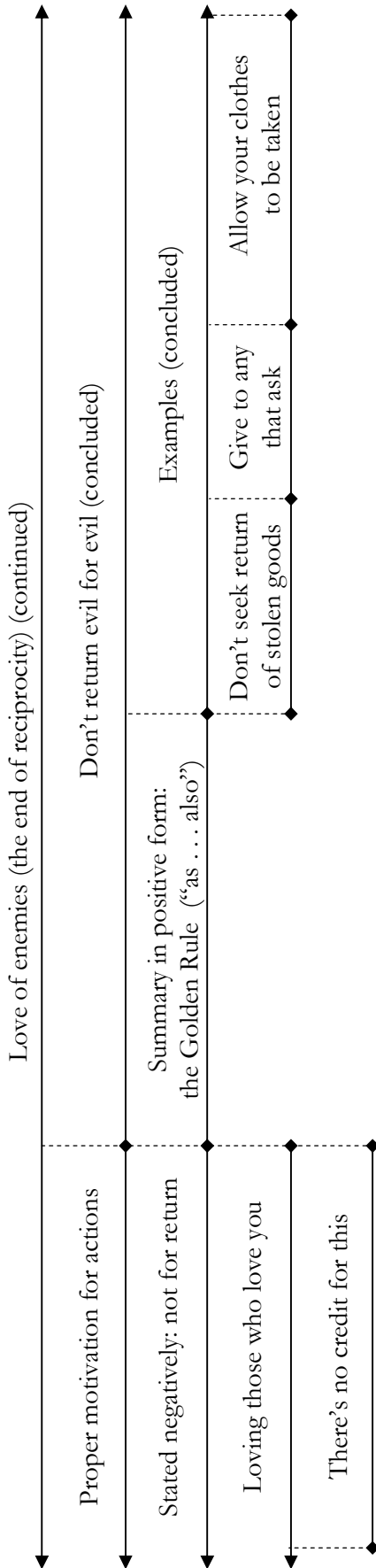


all men
shall speak well
of you!
for
so did
their fathers
to the false prophets.

²⁷ But I
say
unto you
which hear,
Love
your enemies,
do good
to them
which hate you,

²⁸ Bless
them
that curse you, and
pray
for them
which despitefully use you.

²⁹ And unto him
that smiteth thee
on the *one* cheek
offer also
the other; and



him

that taketh away

thy cloke

forbid not

to take

thy coat also.

³⁰ Give

to every man

that asketh of thee; and

of him

that taketh away

thy goods

ask *them* not again.

³¹ And **AS**

ye would

that men

should **do**

to you,

do ye

ALSO

to them likewise.

³² For

if

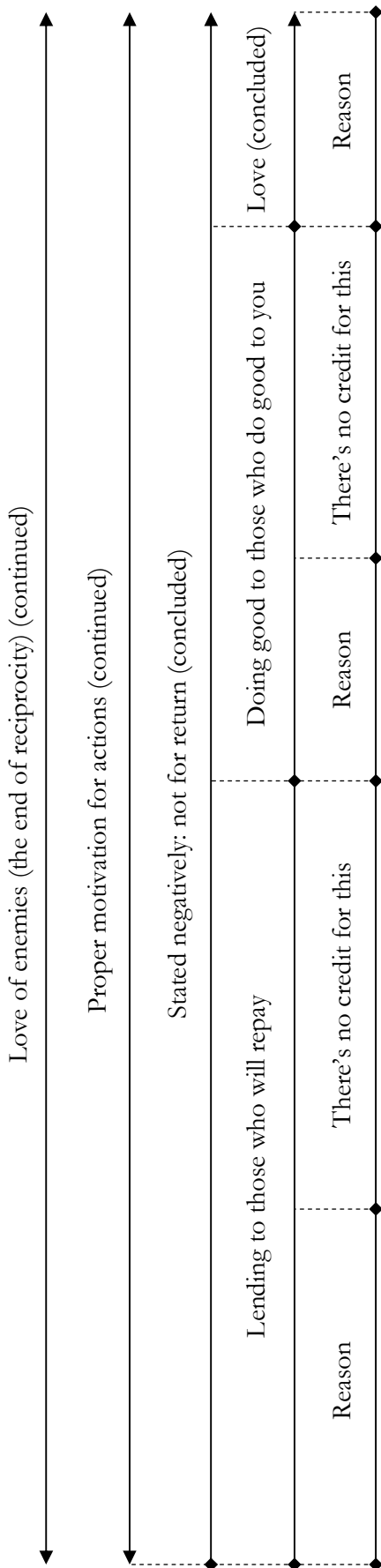
ye love

them

which love you,

what **thank**

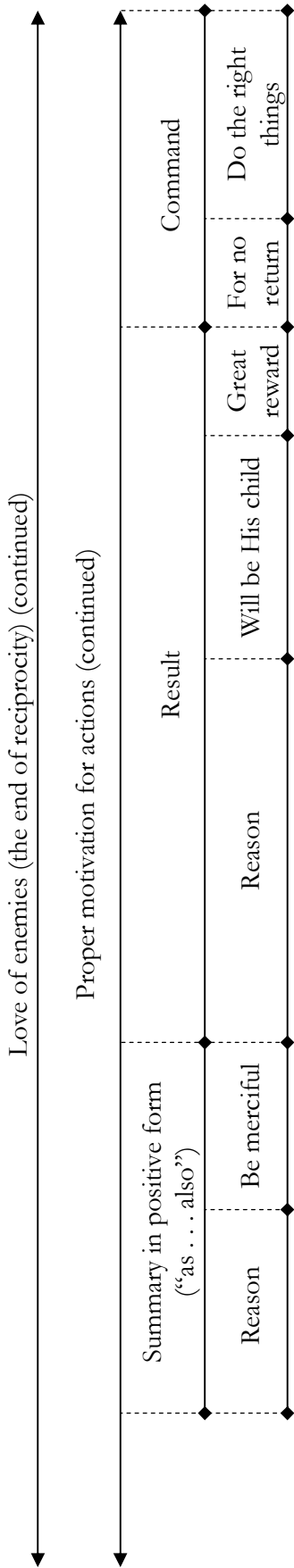
have ye?



for sinners also love those that love them. ³³ And if ye **do good** to them which **do good** to you, what **thank** have ye?

for sinners also **do** even the same. ³⁴ And if ye lend *to them* of whom ye hope to receive, what **thank** have ye?

for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But



love ye
 your enemies, and
do good, and
 lend,
 hoping
 for nothing again; and
 your reward
 shall be great, and
 ye
 shall be
 the children
 of the Highest:
 for
 he
 is kind
 unto
 the un**thankful** and
to
 the **evil**.

³⁶ Be ye
 therefore
 merciful,
AS your Father
ALSO
 is merciful.

I respond
with evil

I respond
with good

Someone
does evil
to me

Returning evil for evil

Negative reciprocity:

- Revenge
- Payback
- Retaliation
- Getting even
- Self-defense??

This is the natural response, and the world assumes this is proper and deserved. Jesus didn't do this; we can't.

Returning good for evil

General Reciprocity:

- Loving enemies
- Do good to those who hate
- Bless those who curse
- Pray for those who abuse

This is what the Father does. This is how Jesus lived. This is alone worthy of reward. This is how we must live.

Someone
does good
to me

Returning evil for good

Criminal acts:

- Fraud
- Theft
- Robbery

This is obviously always wrong and even the unsaved know it.

Returning good for good

Balanced reciprocity:

- Market exchanges
- You scratch my back . . .
- It's nice to be nice to the nice

This is not a bad thing, but it is not extraordinary and not worthy of reward. Even 'sinners' do this; the mafia lives by this code. Jesus says there is no 'credit' for this.