

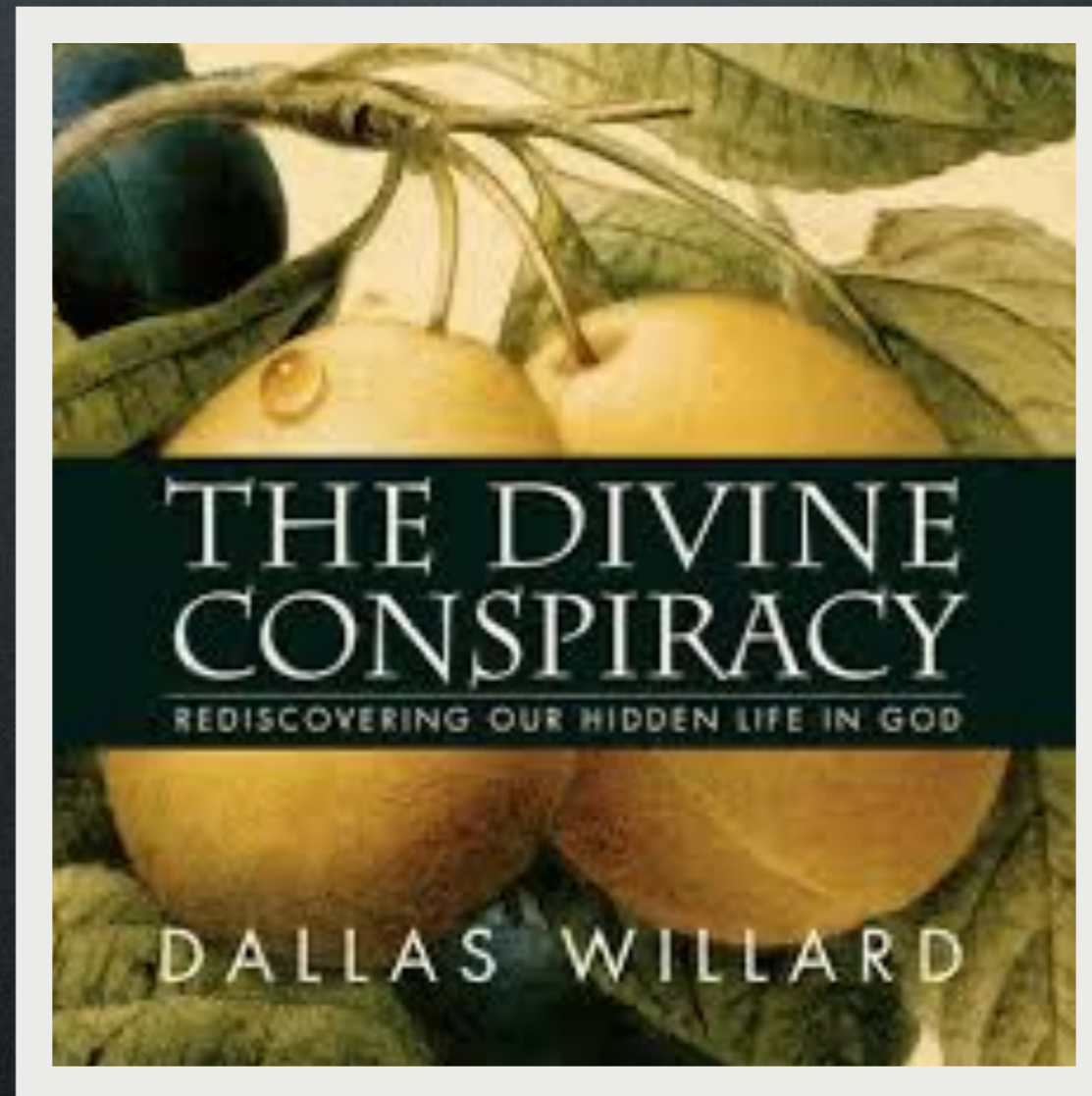
WELCOME to a 31 week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 5 - "The Rightness of The Kingdom Heart:  
Beyond the Goodness of Scribes & Pharisees"

Session 16 - *"Transparent Words & Unquenchable Love"*



## Session 15 Review

What is going on in the heart.  
The love of God...  
crowds out evil. <sup>1</sup>

~ ~ ~

Agape love is the sure answer  
to lust. What you love,  
you'll treat lovingly. <sup>2</sup>

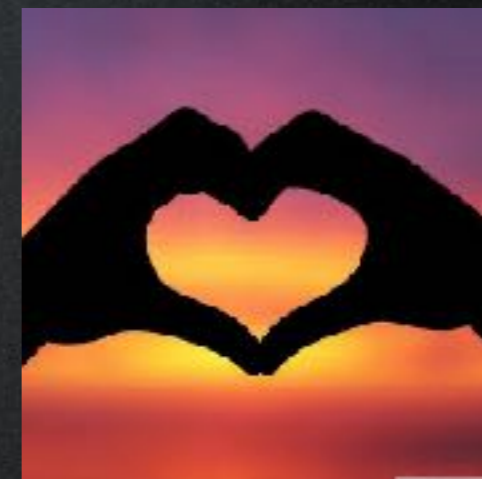
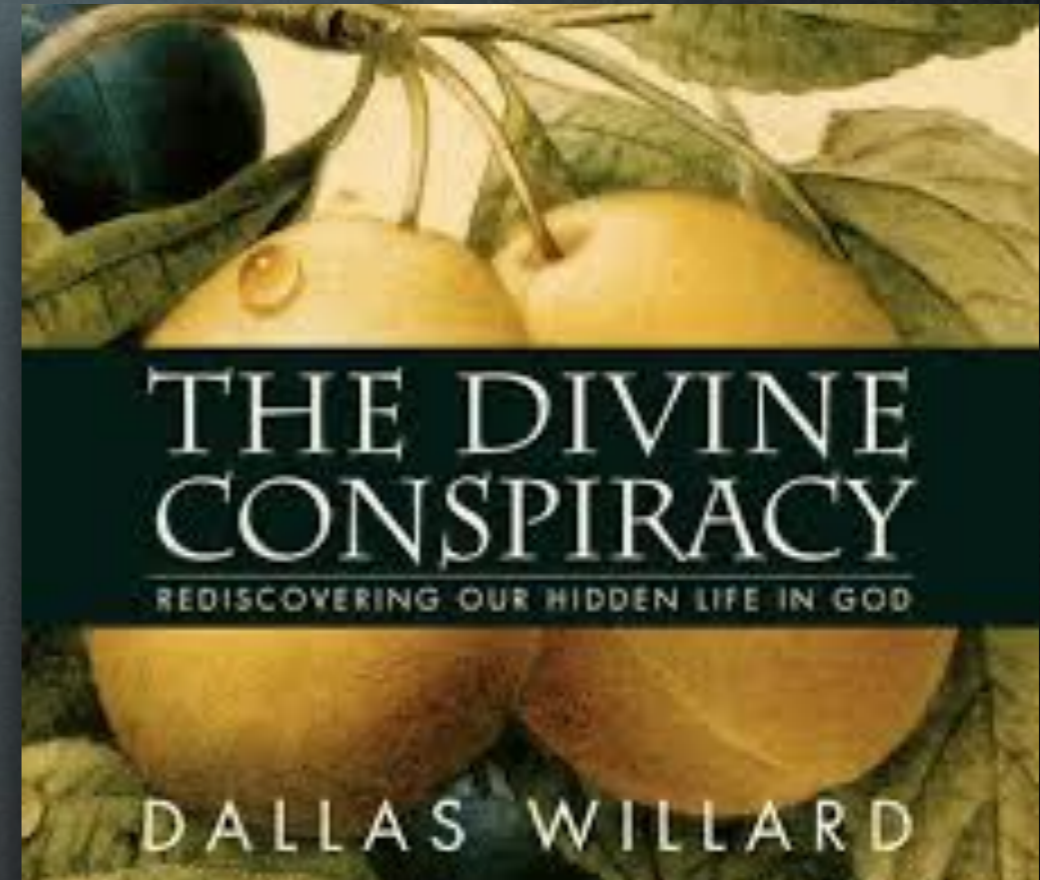
1 - Dallas Willard

*The Divine Conspiracy*, p. 168

2 - Dallas Willard

*The Divine Conspiracy Lectures*, #11

[1:00:20]



# **THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY**

*Who is a really good person?*

*Matthew 5:21-48*

## **Jesus — Six Areas of Kingdom Rightness in Life**

#1 - “In the Caldron of Anger & Contempt” - 5:21-26

#2 - “Fantasized Desire & Adultery” 5:27-30

#3 - “Beyond the Divorce Papers” - 5:31-32

**#4 - “Transparent Words: A Yes that is a Yes” 5:33-37**

**#5 - “Response to Personal Injury” - 5:38-42**

**# 6- “What to do with Enemies” - 5:43-48**

“You have heard that it was said...”

“But I tell you...”



The topic of “Oral Presentation” is the 4th matter in Matthew 5 when Jesus confronts His religious contemporaries.

33 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' 34 But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one."

Matthew 5:33-37

**Life Area #4 - “Transparent Words: A Yes that is a Yes”**  
**Matthew 5:33-37**

I swear to God. “A method of getting their [our] way.” (174)  
“A Song & Dance” <—> “Spin Doctors” - “It is unlike God”

“You have heard that it was said...”

“But I tell you...”

WHAT IS JESUS TEACHING?

The Old Law

*I swear to God, I’m telling the truth*

The New Law

*Stated simply, I trust you believe me*

“You have heard that it was said...”

“But I tell you...”



“Turn the other cheek”, likely the most famous ethical command of Jesus beyond “Love your neighbor as yourself”, is the 5th time Jesus addressed the assumptions of his religious contemporaries.



**What would you do?**



The slap heard around the world when  
Will Smith slapped Chris Rock on live TV.

38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ 39 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. 40 And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. 41 If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. 42 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.”

Matthew 5:38-42

**Life Area #5 - "Response to Personal Injury"**  
**Matthew 5:38-42**

"You have heard that it was said..."

"But I tell you..."

WHAT IS JESUS TEACHING?

The Old Law

Every crime its equal punishment

The New Law

Replace retaliation with selfless love

## **Reciprocity thru Equalization** - “LEX TALIONIS” **or a Kingdom Heart**

Kingdom Position - I surrendered.

I'm not in charge so...

I'm not run by anger, contempt or absorbing desire (fantasy). I can do good and avoid evil. (176, 180)

When injured, our world does not suddenly become our injury. We have a larger view of our life and our place in God's world. We see God; we see ourselves in His hands. We see our injurer under God. (176)

*“Father, forgive them for they do not really understand what they are doing.”*





## Cases of Non-Resistance

1. TURN the other cheek
2. GIVE the shirt off your back
3. GO the extra mile
4. SAY yes to the ask

Do you...

Throw your hands up in despair? Or,  
Sink into the pit of grinding legalism? Or,  
Become like Jesus? *“interior rightness”*

The Kingdom Heart person acts from the Kingdom!

How people live who stand in the flow  
of God's life now...beyond scribes & Pharisees.

(178)



## **Living the Great Inversion** (178, 88, 90, 121)

Not a “Law of Required Vulnerability” (179)

Shifting the Scene — What happens when one derives one’s response from the reality of the Kingdom is that the dynamics of personal interaction are transformed.  
(180)

*This is simply profound!*

From a point of view of eternity...

We will be taken care of.

We can be vulnerable,

Because we are invulnerable.

We have broken anger & desire.

Allows us to move serenely. (181)

“Shalom-ly”



Whose kingdom come, whose will be done?  
Whose love reigns over me...mine or my Father's?



*Where do I stand? My Kingdom vs. Thy Kingdom*

“You have heard that it was said...”

“But I tell you...”



The 6th and final time in Matthew 5 Jesus addressed the assumptions of His religious contemporaries.



Few of us go through life without collecting  
a group of individuals who would not be  
sorry to learn we have died.

(181)



43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 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. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Matthew 5:43-48

**Life Area #6 - "What to Do With Enemies"**  
**Matthew 5:43-48**

"You have heard that it was said..."

"But I tell you..."

WHAT IS JESUS TEACHING?

The Old Law

*Love your neighbor, Hate your enemy*

The New Law

*Love and pray for your enemy*

“The command ‘Be ye perfect’ is not idealistic gas. Nor is it a command to do the impossible. He is going to make us into creatures that can obey that command.” CS Lewis





“My name is Inigo Montoya.  
You killed my father.  
Prepare to die.”





"We must eliminate the cross...  
The bearer of the cross is America!"

Nasir al-Wuhayshi

Al Qaeda's #2 addressing fighters in Yemen

*“Love your enemies, and pray for those persecuting you.  
In this way, you take on the nature of your Father,  
the One in the Heavens.” Matthew 5:44-45*

## **Goodness is Love - Agape Love - a Kingdom Heart**

We discover love that characterizes  
the Father as a life power. (182)

**Hard to do?** Not for Jesus. He calls us to Him to  
impart Himself to us. He does not call us to do what He  
did, but to be as He was, permeated with love. (183)

The deeds of love, including loving our enemies, are  
what agape love does in us and what we do as the new  
persons we have become. (184)



“Perfect love perfects us to love perfectly.”

doug webster



**Today's Intellectual Vacuum** — The centuries long attempt to devise a morality from within merely human resources has now proven itself a failure.

(184 & 131)

By contrast, the Christian teaching about moral goodness that derives from the principles laid down by Jesus does have a historical, theoretical, and practical claim to constitute the true body of moral knowledge.

(184)

*Flashback to Chapter 1*

*There is now no recognized moral knowledge upon which projects of fostering moral development could be based. (3)*

*“rains, streams, winds...great was its fall.”*



Jesus

Follow Me

Love your neighbor

Turn the other cheek

Bless those who curse you

Pray for those who persecute you

*Pray for those who persecute you*

*Bless those who curse you*

*Turn the other cheek*

*Love your neighbor*

*Follow Me*

*Jesus*

# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

## **Meditation** — 1 Corinthians 13

Read as Jesus not what we should do

### **Application**

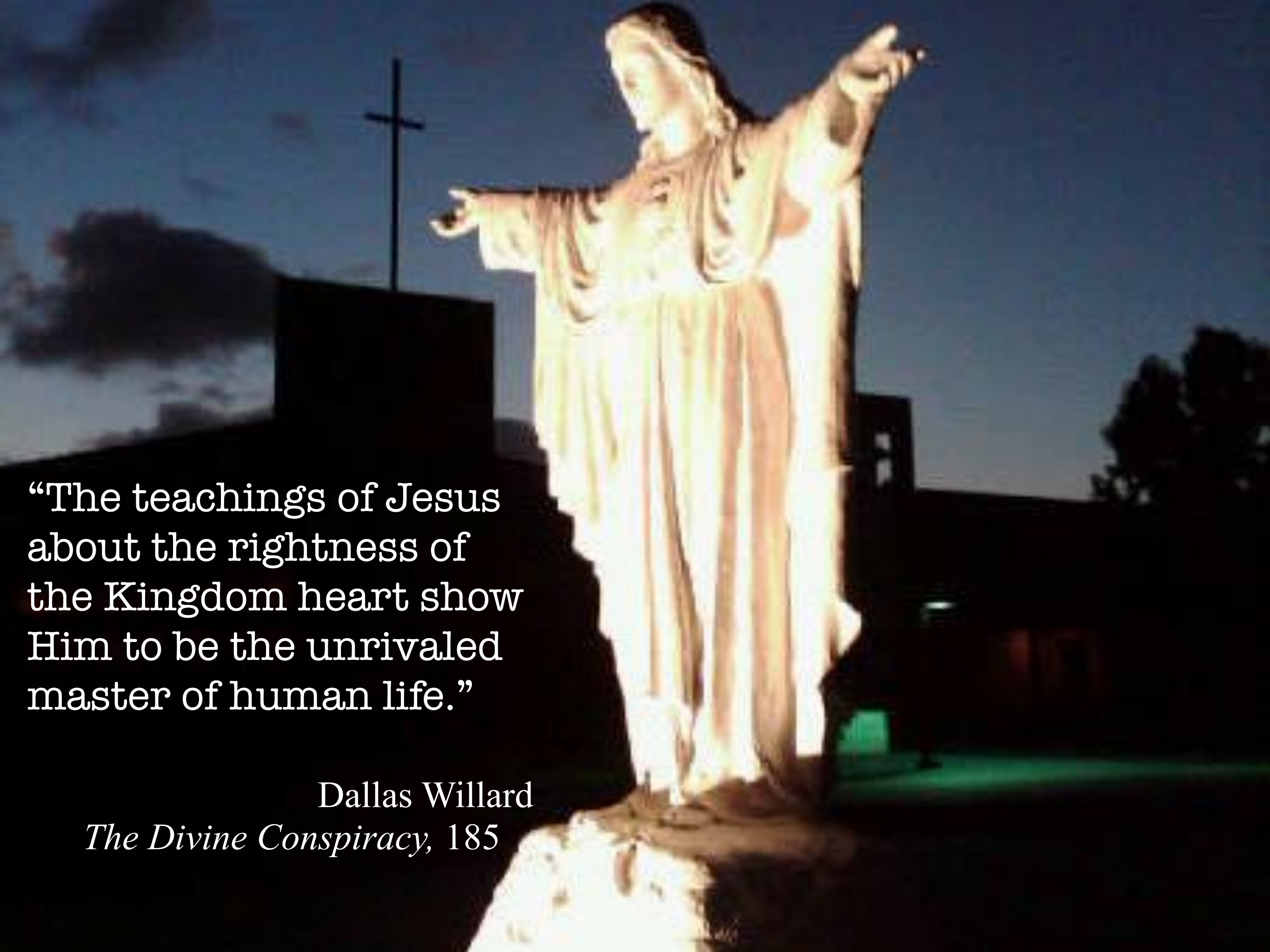
Q — How am I in the progression of releasing my kingdom to God?

Q - How would practicing “Yes be Yes” and “No be No” change my family or business?

Q - What area of my daily action least reflects loving my enemies? Most reflects?

Q - What 1 extra mile will I travel in the next week?





“The teachings of Jesus about the rightness of the Kingdom heart show Him to be the unrivaled master of human life.”

Dallas Willard  
*The Divine Conspiracy*, 185

## **Next Week — Session 17**

Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens:  
Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"

### **"The Respectability Trap"**

Matthew 6:1-18

Hardback - pp. 187-202

Paperback - pp.207-224

**> Recorded Sessions + Slides <**

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## **“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”**

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

[12-part video series link](#)

### **Course Session 16 \* Recommended Teachings**

“Free from Retaliation to Love like the Father”

[DC #11 1:08:10-1:21:20](#)

(119) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

\* See the Course reading schedule for related teachings



Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



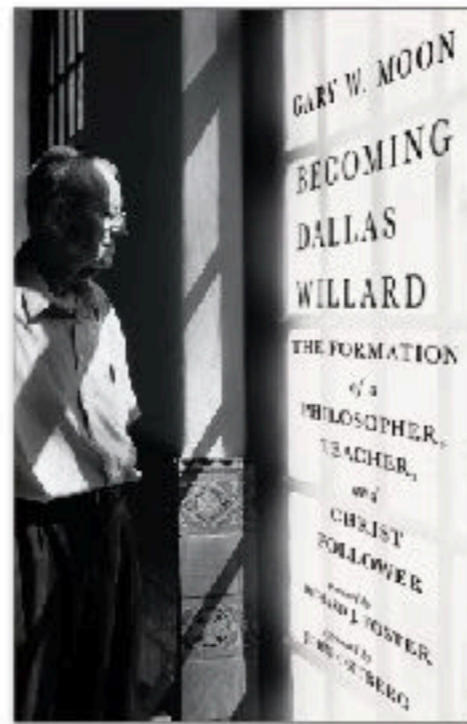
*"The Disappearance of Moral Knowledge"*  
recommended videos

- 1.) ["Knowledge of Christ in Today's World" #3 \[01:50-43:43\]](#)
- 2.) [Dallas at Veritas Forum, University of CA, Irvine](#) (2 parts)

See the [Jesus College Library](#) for a transcripts of these video teachings



**Inspiring  
Story**



**Starts  
Next  
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May your yes be yes,  
your cheeks be free,  
and your enemy be  
surprised!

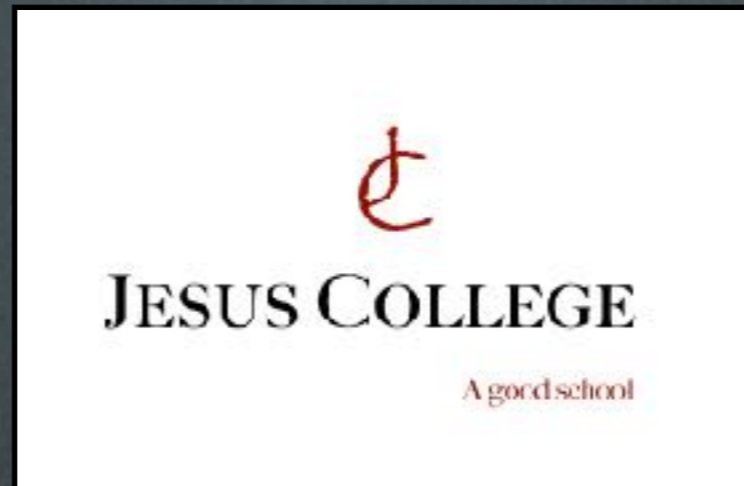
*Doug*



# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING



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Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

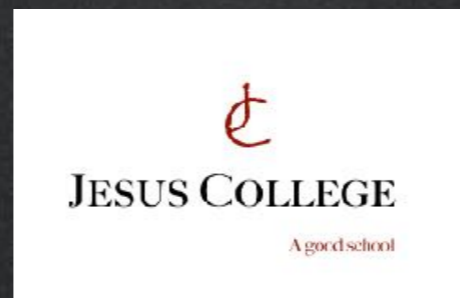
Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

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