



PART 6... ALL WE ARE SAYING, IS GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

The decade of the sixties has been regarded as the worst decade of the twentieth century by the mainline establishment. Many of us, however, remember it as a decisive time in our personal pilgrimage toward a better understanding of biblical pacifism. We cannot deny that Jesus calls his followers into a non-conformist counterculture way of living.

~ Dale W. Brown

It should be obvious by now that violence, and not Christianity, is the real religion of America. This is why it cannot be stressed too much: love of enemies has, for our time, become the litmus test of authentic Christian faith.

~ Walter Wink

The only people on earth who do not see Christ and His teachings as non-violent are Christians.

~ Mohandas Gandhi

Tell me, how can a Christian defend scripturally retaliation, rebellion, war, striking, slaying, torturing, stealing, robbing and plundering and burning cities, and conquering countries?

~ Menno Simons

It is more redemptive to endure suffering than to inflict suffering on others.

~ Dale W. Brown

To love those who love you is human; to hate those who love you is demonic; but to love those who hate you is divine.

~ Augustine

As I read and reread the Sermon on the Mount I suddenly understood what I had missed, and what the church had misunderstood for 1800 years. I understood that Christ says just what he means when he says "Resist not evil". These words, understood in their direct and simple meaning, were for me truly a key opening everything else.

~ Leo Tolstoy

The rejection of war is not an optional ethical issue. Rather, it is the clearest indication of the church's calling to be a community free from nationalist and other forms of domination.

~ Richard Deats

We Christians no longer take up sword against nation, nor do we learn to make war any more, having become children of peace for the sake of Jesus who is our leader.

~ Origen (248 C.E.)

We have learned from the precepts and laws of Christ not to repay evil for evil, to endure injury rather than inflict it, to shed our own blood rather than to stain our hands and conscience with the blood of another.

~ Arnobius (304 C.E.)

The natural thing to do when somebody hits you is to hit them back. We are called upon to be supernatural. We reach that way of being, not as a result of nature, but of prayer.

~ Miguel D'Escoto

It is not enough to defeat our oppressors – we want to convert them! We cannot win by hating our oppressors. We have to love them into changing.

~ Rev. James Bevel (1960's Civil Rights Activist)

We are stardust, we are golden, and we've got to get ourselves back to the garden.

~ Joni Mitchell

I am the Way.

~ Jesus