

Immoral or Illegal?

Sunday Morning, March 8, 2015

Thesis: Traditions Can Sometimes Override Moral Values

Introduction:

Object Lesson - 2 Tables, 2 People, Eat Bread

Formally or Desperately - Which is right? Feed the body.

Traditional Vss. Contemporary Worship?

Which is Right? Feed the Soul.

I. Breaking the Law is Not the Same As Being A Good Moral Person

(Luke 6: 1 – 5)

1 Now it happened on the second Sabbath after the first that He went through the grainfields. And His disciples plucked the heads of grain and ate them, rubbing them in their hands.

2 And some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?"

3 But Jesus answering them said, "Have you not even read this, what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him:

4 how he went into the house of God, took and ate the showbread, and also gave some to those with him, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat?"

5 And He said to them, "The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

Many crimes are not sins.

† Witnessing

† Spanking Disobedient Children

† Meeting to Worship at Church (China)

These are not immoral but illegal in some cases.

II. Not Doing Good Is Worse Than Doing Bad (Luke 6: 6 – 11)

6 Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered.

7 So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him.

8 But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "Arise and stand here." And he arose and stood.

9 Then Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?"

10 And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

11 But they were filled with rage, and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

A Verbal Slap -

According to Jesus the Religious Leaders of the Day were ignorant to moral value in the Word.

Likewise, socially today, abortion, homosexuality and same sex marriage is legal, but immoral.

(Matthew 5:7)

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Jesus teaches us that mercy and compassion are more valuable than tradition.

III. Therefore, Loving Your Neighbor Is A Moral Law Prioritized by God

(Romans 13: 8 – 10)

8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

9 For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Traditional Challenge - Worship Style and Times and Methods

Cultural Challenge -
Who We Accept and Show Respect For
Vss.
Those We Don't

Social Challenge -
Will We Love Our Neighbor?

Conclusion:

Don't Let Our Traditional, Cultural or
Social Challenges Stop Us From
Loving Our Neighbors With Mercy and Compassion