Does It Really Matter?

Greg Kline · Matthew 21:23–27

INTRODUCTION

- By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?
- This morning I want to ask the question, does it really matter?
- We do not know. Hear that all the time. That's the classic cop out today.

1 In the Patriarchal Period, Does It Matter?

Genesis 4:1–7; Genesis 11

- Does God expect to be obeyed to the letter? Does God have expectations that he expects man to keep?
- If you do well, will you not be accepted? If you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door.
- So in the patriarchal period, God absolutely cared, and by the way, could be satisfied, could be obeyed, but he did care when those did not meet his expectations.

2 In the Mosaic Period: Unauthorized Fire

Leviticus 10:1–3

- Offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, which he had not commanded them.
- Among those who are near me, I will be sanctified. And before all the people I will be glorified.
- God cares about being obeyed. In fact, even by the sons of Aaron, even in sacrifices to him, he expected it to be done the way he had commanded.
- God expected to be obeyed, not going beyond or short of what his expectations were.

3 In the Christian Period: Abide in the Teaching

2 John 1:9–11; Matthew 25:31–46

- Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.
- And so we come back to the question, does it matter? Absolutely.
- We are judged by how we help others. That is part of pleasing the Lord.

4 Do All in the Name of the Lord

Colossians 3:16–17; Matthew 28:18–20; Matthew 23:23

- And whenever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
- Think about what it's like to be doing something in the name of Christ. It means by his authority.
- Yes, we are to be faithful. Yes, we are to be merciful. But we're supposed to do those things without neglecting the others.
- If you do it in the name of the Lord, you're doing it by his authority.

5 We Will Not Follow Doctrines of Men

Matthew 15:1–9

- So for the sake of your tradition, you have made void the word of God.
- In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrine, the commandments of men.
- Just because someone is preaching doesn't make them right.
- We need to be in the book to know the book.

6 Will We Respect the Silence of the Lord?

1 Peter 4:11; Ephesians 5:19

- Any man who speaks, how is he supposed to speak? As with the oracles of God.
- Am I going to be abiding in the teaching of Christ or not?
- It's great to serve the Lord. It's fantastic. But that doesn't mean we get to make our own way.
- Who is our King? Jesus the Christ. We need to glorify God.

THE CHALLENGE

We need to know is this from heaven or is this from man? If this is from man, we should not be following it. If it's from heaven, we must if we wish to serve the King.

MY NOTES