Proper Use Of The Law

Ken Chapman · Luke 10:25–37

INTRODUCTION

- I believe there's another lesson that Jesus was trying to teach the lawyer who came testing him.
- I think what Jesus was trying to do is not just make this lawyer a man of compassion, but to get him to understand the proper use of the law of God.

1 Using the Law Just as a Mental Exercise

Matthew 23:1–4

- Here's one wrong way that we can use the law, and that is to just use it just as a mental exercise.
- If we see the scripture simply as some kind of academic textbook to be studied, without making any kind of application in our lives, we're using the law wrong.
- Whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works. For they say and do not do.
- Don't become so expert in your knowledge of the Word of God that you're a walking encyclopedia of biblical knowledge. But it hasn't changed your life in the slightest.

2 A Means to Justify What We Already Believe

Luke 10:29

- Another wrong approach is to use the law of God as simply a means to justify what we already believe and do.
- But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, and who is my neighbor?
- We need to approach the scriptures with an open mind. To be willing to be challenged.
- If you open up the law of God solely with the goal to defend your belief and practices, you'll find something in there.

3 Using the Word of God as a Carnal Weapon

2 Corinthians 10:3–4; Galatians 6:1

- The wrong way to use the law is to use the word of God as a carnal weapon.
- For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.
- For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for the pulling down strongholds.
- We don't use the word of God to humiliate someone, to ridicule someone, and to elevate ourselves as being loftier and holier.

4 Seek to Truly Understand It

Psalm 119:18

- Here's how you approach the Word of God. First of all, we need to seek to truly understand it.

- Don't seek to avoid it. Seek to understand it.
- Say that prayer every time you open the covers of your Bible. Open my eyes that I may see wondrous things from your law.
- We need to approach it with the attitude, I want to know what God's will is in my life.

5 Seek a Way to Accomplish It

- The right way to approach the law is to seek a way to accomplish it.
- You know who your neighbor is? Anybody. Anybody who you come in contact with who needs your love.
- We don't look at the scriptures looking for loopholes.
- You approach the scriptures, not looking for a way out, but looking for a way to accomplish it.

6 Be Willing to Put It Into Practice

Luke 10:36–37

- And lastly, I need to be willing to put it into practice.
- His last words, go and do likewise. That's the antidote to just seeing the law as a mental exercise.
- I look for a way to apply it and accomplish it, not for a way out, but for a way in.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Will you use the word of God today as it was intended?**

MY NOTES