

Jesus and the Law

Summary

The scriptures are the truth that all believers may measure their lives.

Jesus wanted His hearers to understand that what He taught them in no way contradicted Old Testament revelation.

He did not come to abolish the law but to fulfill it.

Read the Passage: Matthew 5:17-20

Make Observations while reading the text.

Main Idea in the text:

Scriptures are a light to lead us to true righteousness.

Jesus teaches a standard that looks at the law from an internal, not an external, perspective.

Internal Righteousness

- Obedience that flows from the heart.
- Obedience motivated by love for the Lord
- Obedience empowered by the Spirit of God

External Righteousness

- List of rules for religious people to follow
- Passed down from generation to generation
- Actions on the outside not coming from the heart.

“Jesus is the only master who if you get him will satisfy you and you fail Him, he can forgive you. “

— Timothy Keller

Religious Leaders	Christians
Follow the Standards made by man	Follow the Standard of the scriptures
Leaders have the authority	Divine truth from the Lord
Leaders can change the law	Character and conduct that conforms to the will of God
	Jesus is saying His words are equal to the law and prophets

Application

1. We must respect the scriptures as the Word of God.
2. We must obey the instructions in the Word of God.
3. We must be committed in our heart to the Word of God. (“If you Love me, keep my commandments”)

Discussion Questions

1. How can we move from an external to-do list into a life of holiness from our hearts?
2. Pharisees had to follow the law based on their own strength, how are Christians able to obey the Bible?
3. What area is the Word of God leading you to follow the Lord more closely?