

The Gospel According to Luke- Part 6

TITLE: HEALING ON THE SABBATH

PART 4

What's more important?

READ LUKE 13:10-17

INTRODUCTION

Jesus was no stranger to the Law of God. He actually taught it in the Temple at the age of 12. (see Luke 2:40-52) He was well aware that there were certain rules to follow concerning the Sabbath day and He also knew that, according to the religious leaders, He was breaking those rules. (On various occasions) This instance was no different in that the religious leader was offended that Jesus would dare to heal someone on the day that was reserved for doing no work at all. (Ex 20:8-11) The misconception here can be that Jesus did break the law. He did not break the law. He never broke God's law. Men had created parameters to God's law that Jesus did not adhere to but He did not break God's law.

Over time, the Jews had added different interpretations to what the ten commandments intended. There were many rules and regulations added to the Law that God had given with an intention of forcing people into following God's command. This may have started with a good heart but, what it ended up being was an impossible mark that no one could attain without becoming controlled by the rules and regulations and, at the end of the day, still failing due to pride. God's intention for the Law was to show mankind that we need a Savior because we cannot achieve holiness under our own power. Jesus understood the heart of God's Law and was not concerned with what men wanted from Him but with what the Father wanted.

In this moment, Christ saw a woman who needed healing and healed her so that she would be relieved and so that she would glorify Him in her healing. Jesus is always concerned with our Spiritual health and He desired to see her glorify God. In that moment, it was more important that she be healed of her malady than for Jesus to rest on a certain day of the week. It is important to remember that Jesus did not come to break the law or to do away with the law but to fulfill it. (Matt. 5:17-20) Jesus followed God's law but was not concerned with the extra rules that men had put onto it.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 2:40-52. What does it say about Jesus' knowledge of the Law to see Him teaching in the Temple at the age of 12? Why is that important for the rest of His life? How do you think it affected His later years in ministry?
2. Read Exodus 20:8-11. Why was the religious leader offended by Jesus healing on the Sabbath? Did he have a right to be offended? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think men add to God's Law? Do we still do this today? In what ways do you see it happening and how can we avoid letting it happen?
4. What encouragement can we take from Jesus being more concerned with the Law of God and not as much with the law of men? How can this become a danger to us as well?
5. Read Matthew 5:17-20. What does it mean that Jesus did not come to do away with the law but to fulfill it? What does this passage mention about our ability to earn eternal life? Why was Jesus concerned with making sure we knew we could not attain righteousness without God?

WRAP UP

Jesus was very good at getting under the skin of the religious leaders but He did not do it in a way that carried arrogance or pride. He showed them the hypocrisy of their man made rules that they had added to the Law that the Father had given them. The Law of God was already hard enough. It did not need more difficulty added. We need the sacrifice of Jesus to be washed clean and made whole so that we can enjoy communion and fellowship with the Father.