

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

2-21-16 Ken Carlton

Title: LESSONS IN LAWFULNESS

Main Text: Mat 23:23-33

Sermon Description: Jesus' message to the Pharisees is laced with surprising, even shocking, ironies. The most learned of men in one sense, proved the most ignorant in another. Though they were most devout in many things, they were nevertheless obstinate with respect to the truth. The most careful and concerned experts in the minutia, detail, and nuance of Old Testament law are declared lawless by Christ! Those who sought ceremonial blamelessness and perfection are shown to be utterly and completely contaminated. The most impressive displays of outward piety prove to be the most despicable evidence of depravity once the mask of hypocrisy is stripped from this complex and deceptive religious scam and its leaders. The great class of experts and doctors of theological precision according to their system are in fact the blind leading the blind. John 9:35-41 illustrates this via a great miracle of Jesus opening physical eyes... Let us pray His Word opens our eyes to the Pharisaical tendencies that yet plague the heart of man so easily motivated by a deluded quest for self justification...

Heading: UNDERSTANDING LAWFULNESS BY THREE CATEGORIES...

1. INTENT

- a. Missing the point (23:23)
- b. Misleading standards (24)
- c. Main idea (Micah 6:8, Jn 9:24)

2. INTERNAL

- a. Mistaking sanctification (25-26)
- b. Misplaced fear (27-28)
- c. Man vs. God

3. IMMANENT

- a. Monument smokescreen (29)
- b. Murderer's defense (30-31)
- c. Measure of fathers (32, 3:5-12)

Close: Jesus rhetorical question in the context of judgement was directly answered during the ministry of John the Baptist... yet the Pharisees in their blindness, could not see and nor value repentance and its lawful fruit.

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Main point	Old & New theme	Sanctification	Fear of God	Excuses and judgement	Repent
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Ps 57:1-3	Ex 25:20-22	Ps 57:3-6	I Sam 24	Ps 57:7-11	Heb 7:26-8:2

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Further Study' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Guest speaker: Pastor Joe Reed...