

What Man Missed In Jesus' Message – Ten Commandments – To Bind And To Loose

This week we continue to explore what *Man Missed in Jesus Message* focusing on the Ten Commandments. Many have questions. Keep the Sabbath Holy. But is it a sin if I go play golf? Thou shalt not kill. But can I shoot someone in self-defense? I am sure you have many questions.

Jesus gave us additional Commandments. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Render unto Caesar that which is Caesars and unto God what is Gods. Turn the other cheek. Many people pondered these questions back in the days of the national drafts during WWII and the Vietnam War. If the nation drafted you to fight in a war did you *render unto Caesar*, join the army and go fight, or keep the Commandment not to kill and be a conscientious objector? Difficult and deep decisions to make.

This is where many Churches step in. Regardless of your Denomination many Churches will tell you that you are not equipped to handle these questions, that's why you must rely on them to "*interpret*" Gods meaning for you. And this interpretation many times takes the form of countless more "*rules*" and "*interpretations*" of what God really meant. That's why you can go to Services on Saturday to fulfill your Sunday "*obligation*" to keep the Sabbath Holy. *But wait ... wasn't the Sabbath supposed to be on Saturday in the first place?* Sort of silly isn't it? God never said you can simply attend Service for an hour on Sunday (or Saturday) to fulfill your "*obligation*" to keep the Sabbath Holy, then spend the other 23 hours doing whatever you wanted. *So who said that?*

Therein lies the problem of most of Church "*laws*", they either mitigate or expand Gods original Commandments to suit their purposes. The same thing the Pharisees had done which was why they objected to Jesus healing on the Sabbath because as "*work*" it violated the Law of Moses that one should perform no "*work*" on the Sabbath. Jesus set them straight on that thinking! See **Matthew Chapter 12**. It was in this context that Jesus gave us the true purpose of the Sabbath.

"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath," He said (**Mark 2:27**). The Pharisees had reversed the priorities of the law of God. They added so many regulations and traditions to the Sabbath Commandment that trying to keep it as required had become a heavy burden on people rather than the blessing that God had intended it to be (**Isaiah 58:13-14**).

Many Churches will site **Matthew 16:19** where Jesus gave His Apostles the power to **Bind and Loose** as the basis of their authority to make new laws or mitigate the Ten Commandments. But did Jesus really give them power to make many *new* laws in God's name or did He confer the responsibility of making sure God's *existing* laws were followed by His Followers here on earth?

Below are two translations from the **Online Bible Gateway**: <https://www.biblegateway.com>

Matthew 16:19 International Standard Version (ISV). *I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you prohibit on earth will have been prohibited in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will have been permitted in heaven."*

Matthew 16:19 King James Version (KJV). *And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

Different denominations interpret this passage as granting the power to make the many laws of minutia like the Pharisees did. Others say **Bind and Loose** applies only to sin, or to the power to excommunicate. I can't give you the answer. Remember it is not our purpose here to answer all questions for you, but rather to get you to *think about the answers and study The Bible with your family*. The answers are in Gods Word. And in the Spirit. Remember, when you stand before Jesus on Judgement Day you, *and not your Priest or Pastor*, will have to justify your actions to Him.

Study The Bible yourself so that you understand and follow the Commandments as God intended you to. Make sure you aren't one of the men or woman that *Missed Jesus' Message*. **God Bless!**

Footnote: *this article is intended to be thought provoking but it is not in any way intended to speak against any Church or Denomination. Rather it is about the personal decisions we must make to uphold Jesus Teachings. In my personal case I believe that the Sabbath was Saturday and so I have attended Mass on Saturdays to fulfill the Catholic Churches "obligation" for Sunday Service while following Gods Laws and Jesus' Teachings. In the same way we must all believe in our Spirit and Soul that we follow Jesus' Teachings. Love Thy Neighbor. Render Unto Caesar. Do Not Kill.*