

It Was Said, But I Say

Introduction

1. It is important that the words of God in our Bible be handled correctly.
 - A. Sometimes men make honest mistakes, while others purposely misuse, twist, or take scriptures out of context to try to get the Bible to say what they want it to say. **Examples:**
 - 1) **Honest mistake:**
Preacher visits lady in hospital (Hebrews 13:8; 8:13).
"Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away."
 - 2) **Purposeful twist:**
A man said he can make the Bible say what he wants. The preacher said, ok, show me where you can't chop wood The man says "ok, what God has joined together, let no man put asunder."
2. Jesus tried to get the people of His day to see the difference between what the old law said and what He now taught.
Matthew 5:21-48
3. In our reading we find Jesus comparing and contrasting the laws.
4. Many times people hear things religiously that are not true.

Acts 28:22 But we desire to hear from you what you think; for concerning this sect, we know that it is spoken against everywhere.

- A. Some things people hear would appear harmless, **"cleanliness is next to godliness."**
- B. However, most things are not harmless that people hear. **Especially when it comes to the Bible!**

You Have Heard That it Was Said, But I Say to You....

1. You have a right to your own belief.

A. But the Bible says:

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they **did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved**. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

- 1) **Jesus said I will build "my church." The church that man finds himself in religiously, better be the Lord's church and not a man made religious body!**

2. I can prove anything by the Bible --- wanna see?

A. Baptism is not important.

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

B. All individuals in denominations (any church) will be saved.

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

1) But the Bible says:

2 Peter 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people **twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures**.

- a) **What if someone constantly twisted your words to make it fit the way that was to their own benefit?**

3. Men can't see the Bible alike.

A. But the Bible says:

John 17:20-23

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

1) The apostle Paul further wrote:

Ephesians 3:3-4 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),

Ephesians 5:17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

4. The church is really not that important.

A. But the Bible says:

Acts 2:23-24 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

Eph 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

1) Jesus suffered and died a cruel death for His church!

5. One church is just as good as another.

A. This is true --- IF --- you're talking about various denominations!

**B. But the Bible says:
Ephesians 5:23-27**

6. One can be saved by Faith ONLY.

A. But the Bible says:

Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does** the will of My Father in heaven.

1) Martin Luther said we're justified by faith - true. But faith only?

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

James 2:24 You see then that **a man is justified by works**, and **not by faith only**.

7. Baptism is not really essential to being saved.

A. But the Bible says:

Mark 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

1) Is this a non essential command of Jesus?

B. Think of all the different versions of this one verse!

CHART

- 1) **Baptist version:** He who believes and is not baptized shall be saved.
- 2) **Catholic version:** He who believes not and is baptized shall be saved.
- 3) **Atheist version:** He who believes and is baptized shall not be saved.
- 4) **Universalist version:** He who believes not and is not baptized shall be saved.

WHO IS RIGHT?

8. As long as you believe in Jesus you are on the right road to heaven.**A. But the Bible says:**

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father **except through Me.**

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Ephesians 4:4-6 There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and **there are few who find it.**

1) Why only a few?

- a. **Because only a few are really searching or will love the truth enough to strive to do all of Jesus' will.**

Conclusion**1. The question that everyone must answer is this: **Are we following hear say or the word of Jesus Christ?******A. Remember:**

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- **the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.**

Baptism Chart

Invitation

Place

Date

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Richie Thetford, December 1996 – Reworked May 2020 (Based on a sermon by Wayne Goforth)