



Lesson #3: Life Lessons about Biblical Authority (5:17-20)

Christ's preaching was so entirely different from that of the Pharisees and Sadducees (which was supposed to be based on the OT), that questions about who this Jesus really was agitated the minds of men and they called for answers. The balance of "truth" as taught by the religious leaders of the day had been lost and Jesus was being labeled a _____.

Therefore, did Christ here assure the people he did not come to be antagonistic to the OT Scriptures but to _____ them. He was not the opposite of biblical authority, He was _____ biblical authority.

THE BIBLE'S DIVINE AUTHORITY IS SEEN IN ITS _____

It finds its fulfillment in Christ

- "Not to Destroy" – to _____ or dissolve
- "But to Fulfill" – to render _____ or make it perfect

A. Christ did not come to _____ the law and the prophets (v. 17)

The law, the books from Genesis to Deuteronomy, was Scripture par excellence for the Jews. They examined it with vigilant thoroughness. When Jesus came to minister on earth they had been studying it for _____ years. They discovered, for example, that there were _____ commandments in this part of the Bible (248 positive, 365 negative). To them, the revelation of God was all about external conformity to a set of standards or rules. Jesus taught against this! He is the end of the law. He stands forth as the all-comprehensive _____ of it.

B. Christ came to _____ the law and the prophets (v. 17)

Christianity is a _____ (not emotional or sentimental) faith and this is proven by Christ's teaching here. Christ's fulfillment confirms the OT, not casts doubt upon it! _____ times Jesus uses OT prophecy to point to Himself. Christ is therefore the fulfillment of all Scripture.

THE BIBLE'S DIVINE AUTHORITY IS SEEN IN ITS _____ NATURE

It is forever settled in Heaven.

A. The Bible is a _____ book (v. 18)

Jesus states emphatically that the Word will not pass away. He is saying, "Not the smallest letter, not the tiniest part of a letter will be removed or abandoned." None of it will pass away! The divine purpose of Scripture will be fulfilled.

B. The Bible is a _____ book (v. 19)

Notice this verse starts with "_____" or "Amen." This is the first use of that word in the NT and it emphasizes the Bible's relevance.

THE BIBLE'S DIVINE AUTHORITY IS SEEN IN ITS _____ OVER ETERNITY

My approach to the Bible and how I allow the Bible to change and challenge me it going to impact my _____.

A. You will be eternally impacted by your _____ to God's standard (v. 19)

Your reward in Heaven is going to be reflective of your obedience on earth. Don't diminish the authority of the Bible by your manipulative _____ of it! Jesus is instructing us to be very careful about our right conformity to the Bible.

B. You will be eternally impacted by your _____ on God's sanctity (v. 20)

The Pharisees were strived to be masters of good works. They looked for strict legal correctness, whereas Christ looked for _____. The Pharisees put a tremendous emphasis on the letter of the law but Jesus was looking for something very different from this Pharisaical standard. He was looking for totally _____ on God!

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Much of the conflict and problems in our world today boil down to one simple truth about our belief system:

We do not treat God's Word as our final _____.

The truth from Scripture is that your relationship with God's Authority (The Bible) will impact your relationship with others on earth. But more than that, Your relationship with God's Authority (The Bible) will impact your entrance into _____.