

JOHN 8:1-11

The test case: Jewish law, or Roman law, which would Jesus defend?

Jesus ignores them, but they persist

Let any of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her
each person is forced to look inside before looking outside

a new element, grace, is entered into the equation

“Neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared, “Go now and leave your life of sin”

Jesus doesn't excuse her sin, he simply chooses to forgive it

obedience is a response to, not a prerequisite for, grace

this completely changed the rules in regards to confronting sin

What Did (and Does) Jesus Demonstrate About Change?

1. Religion left to humans becomes calcified (inflexible, unchanging)

2. Jesus came to change us from the inside out
he constantly talked about the heart

we must begin with the heart rather than appearance or behavior
in evaluating our own growth

in evaluating the spiritual condition of others

when our heart is truly changed by God it will show on the outside

3. The impact of Jesus is meant to change everything
individuals and families

societal systems of every kind

expressions of worship to God, and the sharing of faith with others

check a concordance and list everything God is making “new”

CONCLUSION

When God truly changes your heart you can expect other changes as well!

WHAT JESUS BELIEVES ABOUT THE NEED FOR CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

Jesus was born and raised as a Jew, but he did not come to patch Judaism
his intent was not Judaism 2.0 or 5.0 or 7.0

I am making everything new! - Revelation 21:5

new hearts, new covenant, new commandment, new self

Why, then, do his followers find it so hard to adjust to ongoing changes?
a disclaimer--no hidden agenda in this message

without fear of what's coming let's listen to what Jesus has to say

MARK 7:5-8

Best intentions too often go awry and lead to undesired ends
rules for priests, priesthood of all, rules for all

response to being set apart led to requirements for being set apart

grace led to legalism

Leaders were frustrated that Jesus was not supporting validity of oral law

Jesus is harshly critical of the religious leaders
hypocrites = they were actors rather than the real deal

they talked a great talk, but their hearts were cold and empty

worship was more focused on right rules than on God's character

LUKE 5:36-39

The lesson from patching clothes

The lesson from making wine

New wine must be poured into new wineskins

*None of you, after drinking old wine, wants the new, for you say,
"The old is better"*