

Luke
See Jesus
Losing My Religion
Luke 6:1-11

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / March 14, 2021

I. You need to remember Jesus is your Advocate, and will justify you when you're wrongfully accused!

Luke 6:2, 5 "But some of the Pharisees said, 'Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?' And Jesus answered them, 'Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: "how he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those with him?"' And He said to them, 'The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.'"

Accusations were normative for Jesus and His disciples. To some degree, they'll be part of our lives, too. Jesus spoke plainly about being falsely accused and mistreated because of following Him.

Luke 6:22-23 "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets."

John 15:20-21 "Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will also keep yours. But all these things they will do to you on account of My name, because they do not know Him who sent Me."

John 16:1-4 "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor Me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you."

II. You need to be sure your personal practices don't turn into a false religion.

4 Results of "Canonizing Your Convictions"

A. You'll see the Word of God become secondary to your personal practices.

Luke 6:2 "But some of the Pharisees said, 'Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?'"

A chief reason the Pharisees accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath is because they were more familiar with their own laws than the Word of God.

1 Samuel 21:3, 6 “Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever is here’...So the priest gave him the holy bread, for there was no bread there but the bread of the Presence, which is removed from before the Lord, to be replaced by hot bread on the day it is taken away.”

B. You’ll find yourself judging yourself and others according to your own standards.

Luke 6:7 “And the scribes and the Pharisees watched Him, to see whether He would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find a reason to accuse Him.”

C. You’ll find it difficult to celebrate the mercy & grace of God at work in others.

Luke 6:10-11 “...and his hand was restored. But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.”

The Pharisees obsession with their homemade laws caused them to see Jesus as a threat to their system instead of the Savior He was. Instead of being curious followers, they become angry observers.

D. You won’t know what it’s like to truly rest, once and for all, in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:9-13 "So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. When was the last time you were falsely accused?
2. How have you been reviled or persecuted because of your love for Jesus?
3. What personal practices have you employed in your life to help you walk with Christ in holiness? Which of those might you be tempted to judge others by?
4. Pastor Peter said “Don’t canonize your convictions.” What did he mean?
5. Review Hebrews 4:9-11. How have you experienced the confident peace & rest that can only be found in Jesus Christ?