

7 Things Jesus Never Said – Aug. 3, 2022

Some sayings sound like - from the Bible, not. *“To thing own self be true”*
“Cleanliness is next to Godliness.” *“God works in mysterious ways.”*

Religious sayings may be popular, but don't assume. Check. Context.
Jesus is the foundation of our faith. If He didn't say it, question it.

As Christians - Christ-followers – let's clear up what Jesus never taught.

7 Things Jesus Never Said:–

1 – God helps those who help themselves

- Credit to Greek tragedies, politicians, Ben Franklin. Jesus never said it.
 - **Matt. 9:36** – “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed & helpless, like sheep w/o a shepherd.”
 - **Psalm 33:20** – “Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.”
 - God knows to **give what we need**. Jesus **meets** us where/are.
 - You don't have to be **strong**. Even our **“moanings”** known.

2 - If you give your money to God, God will bless you with more money.

- 2006 Times poll - **31 %** think that's true. Jesus never said it.
- Yet **61 %** agree with the idea that “God wants people to be prosperous.”
 - Rewritten Psalm 23: “The Lord is my banker/my credit is good”
 - From Malachi 3 – God was upset - robbing Him of tithes/offerings.
Mal. 3:10 – “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”
 - Jesus didn't tell us to live with an eye toward accumulating wealth.
 - **Matt. 6:19-21** – “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth & rust destroy, and where thieves break in & steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth & rust do not destroy, & where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
 - **Luke 12:15** – “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”
 - **Mark 10:25** – “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”
 - **Yes, God blesses us**. Blessings come in many forms.
 - God wants us happy, in Heaven. Doesn't give us harm.

3 - Your sins aren't a big deal, You're Forgiven.

- Jesus never got mad at a sinner for being a sinner.
- But... He also didn't say, "keep on sinning"
- **John 8** – woman caught in adultery.
 - **Vs. 10-11** – “Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?” “No, Lord,” she said. Jesus said, “Neither do I. *Go & sin no more.*”
- We think of sin as no big deal. It was a big deal to Jesus. Abuse Grace.
 - He suffered greatly b/c of sin. We need to take it seriously. **No more.**

4 – Hate the sin, Love the sinner.

- Ghandi said it, but Jesus did not.
- Jesus said: “love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you” – **Matt. 5:44**
- Jesus said: “Do not judge, so that you won't be judged. For with the judgment you use, you will be judged, & with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye but don't notice the log in your own eye?” – **Matt. 7:1-3**
 - **We're all sinners.** Hate your sin, & sin no more.
 - No position to judge anyone else. Focus on yourself; that's enough.
 - Jesus said – when He returned to heaven, the **Holy Spirit** would come. “And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.” - **John 16:8**
 - It's **not our job** to convict people they're living in sin.
 - **Luke 19:8** – “But **Zacchaeus** stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, half of my possessions I give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will repay it fourfold.”
 - In Jesus' presence, he changes. He already knew wrong.

5 – Follow me, and I will make your life easy.

- **Mt. 4:19**– “Come, follow Me,” Jesus said, “I will make you fishers of men”
 - Jesus gives us a **purpose** for living, but doesn't say it will be easy.
 - In fact, He told the Disciples it would be hard. He had it hard.
 - James, killed-sword. Peter - crucified. John/Baptist-killed.
 - He also said not everyone would like them.
 - **Matt. 10:22** – “You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.”
 - We are **overcomers**, not avoiders of problems.

6 – God will not give you more than you can handle.

- Said to help people in difficulties. It's well-meaning, but not accurate.
 - If we could handle everything comes our way, we wouldn't need God.
- Bible: many examples/situations people couldn't handle: Slaves-Red Sea, Daniel: lion's den; Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego - furnace; Peter-prison; Joseph: sold into slavery, then prison. David & Saul. And Job?
 - God allows things. There's a perfect purpose, not a perfect life. Many things draw us to God so we'll rely on Him.
 - We were created to **DEPEND** on God.
- This is a misstatement of **1 Cor. 10:13** – “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”
 - Paul was talking about temptation, not comfort in times of trial.
 - **God sees us thru. Protects, Defends. Lifts us up.**
 - “But You, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the One who lifts my head.” – **Psalm 3:3**

7 – Because God loves everyone, He won't send them to Hell.

- Jesus taught clearly – there is Heaven & Hell.
- **Matt. 13** – Parable of the Weeds. Wheat & weeds grow together.
- ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.
- ⁴⁰ “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.
 - Jesus came to make a way for us, to avoid Hell. Why come if no Hell?
 - If our choices don't matter, why do we need Salvation?
 - Jesus is the “way, the Truth, and the life.”

Stay positive. Test negative. Vaccinated.

Song of the week: “**2nd Opinions**”- Casting Crowns