



The Legalistic Lunacy of Loophole Living

Luke 16:14-18

Sermon Study Notes

Context is everything, because context determines meaning.
God knows your heart, and that's not a comforting thought!

I. Ridicule is a sign of disdainful rejection. (16:14)

The Pharisees love of money leads them to ridicule and reject Jesus.

II. Self-justification is a cause for divine revulsion. (16:15)

"Human history is the long, terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy." - C. S. Lewis

III. The law points to deliberate redemption. (16:16a)

John is a transitional figure.

John is the greatest because he introduced Jesus.

IV. Good news invites dynamic reception. (16:16b)

The law is like a mirror - it shows us we're dirty.

The news is so good that people are pressing themselves into it, but Pharisees use the law, which was designed as a roadmap to get people to Christ, and instead they use it as an obstacle.

V. Fulfillment of the law does not dissolve its requirements. (16:17)

Christ changes our view of the law from one of duty to delight.

Three Ways the Law Can be Fulfilled:

1. You can keep the law perfectly.
2. You can be judged for every single violation of the law.
3. You can hear the good news and believe the gospel.

When your heart opens to the good news of the Kingdom, you'll do anything you have to do to get to Christ.

When you get to Christ, the burden of the law is lifted, and your obedience becomes not one of slavish duty, but of sanctified devotion.

VI. Marriage is the heart's definitive revelation. (16:18)

When it is honored...

It is a covenant.

It is a union.

It is motivated by love.

When it is dishonored...

It shows depravity of the heart.

It shows disregard of the law.

It shows desire for covenant relationship without covenant keeping.

The way we view money, the law, and marriage are connected. Whatever your brokenness, Jesus brings wholeness.
God knows your heart, but He will give you a new one.