

JESUS' HERMENEUTIC

Text: John 10:35

INTRO: In the last few years, those in the church who are clamoring for introducing instrumental music in the worship services and women into places of church leadership, have begun to speak out for a “new hermeneutic.” They insist that the Scriptures are not a pattern for us to follow, but deal only in general guidelines and principles. They have suggested that the nearest thing we have to a pattern is the life and behavior of Jesus.

For the next few minutes I invite you to look with me at how Jesus used the Scriptures.

I. JESUS LIVED AND DIED UNDER THE OLD TESTAMENT SYSTEM. The New Testament was a promise soon to be fulfilled when Jesus ended His earthly ministry.

Jesus repeatedly emphasized that the Scriptures must be fulfilled.

Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses & the Prophets & the Psalms concerning Me.” (Luke 24:44).

II. JESUS RECOGNIZED THE SCRIPTURES AS AUTHORITATIVE. It was the revealed will of God that was to settle spiritual disputes and questions.

A. Have you not read? MT 12:3, 5; 21:16, 42; 22:31

B. What does the law say?

Jesus said to [lawyer who asked him about eternal Life]: “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?” (Luke 10:26).

“Is it not written in your law...?” (John 10:34)

C. It is written. Jesus is quoted nearly 20 times as using this expression. Matt. 4:4, 7, 10; 26:24, 31; John 8:17.

III. NOTICE HOW JESUS USED THE SCRIPTURES TO DETER-

MINE THE WILL OF GOD.

- A. He cited the statements and commands as authoritative.
To a leper He had cleansed: "...Go your way, show yourself to the priest, & offer the gift that Moses commanded..." (Matt. 8:4).

To the R.Y.R: "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father & your mother.'" (Mark 10:19).

MATT. 19:5 (Gen. 2:24)

For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.' Matt.11:10)

- B. He indicated that people should learn from its examples.
Luke 17:32 READ LUKE 4:24-29

- C. He showed some lessons must be learned implicitly.

- A. Jesus cleansed the temple, driving out the money-changers & sellers of doves at least twice.

And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of thieves'" (Matt. 21:13).

And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" (John 2:16)

- B. The Sadducees were materialists. They did not believe that man has a soul or spirit, thus when he dies and his body returns to dust, there is nothing to resurrect. READ LUKE 20:34-38.

IV. THE NEW TESTAMENT IS SIMPLY AN EXTENTION OF THE REVELATION OF GOD AND SUBJECT TO THE SAME METHODS OF STUDY AND UNDERSTANDING.

- A. Paul cited Luke's writing as Scripture, 1 Tim. 5:18
- B. Peter cited Paul's writing as Scripture, 2 Pet. 3:16

CONCLUSION: Early Christians copied the writings of the apostles & prophets and passed them on to other Christians and to future generations. What the apostles wrote are the words of Jesus, Gal. 1:11-12; Heb. 12:25. And those writings are just as important and just as authoritative as they were nearly 2,000 years ago. Matt. 24:35; Heb. 1:1-2.

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, February 13, 2000
Wharton, NJ, May 11, 2000 (meeting)
Northside, Georgetown, TX, November 16, 2000 (meeting)
Hyde Park, PA, September 17, 2001 (meeting)
Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, June 10, 2004 (meeting)