

The Common Sense of Jesus Mat 7:1-12 (5 1/2)

We will hear the expression some times that the Christian religion is just good common sense - well that seems to be about right.

Jesus certainly had good common sense - "Let us test Him at four points

1. Prayer. It is easy to talk foolishly about it a great many silly things have been claimed for it and against it. Some habits of prayer are strange and come to nothing. What does Jesus say about prayer? He taught that it must be Sincere -

a. must not pray to make a show

b. must not pray to make an impression on those near him.

c. not deal in repetitions (20 times a day)

d. He must not appear to be smarter than God "For it becomes my duty to inform you that you X is dead!"

e. He must be brotherly and not proud
All-time men went into temple to pray.

f. He must be right - if he starts to place a prayer and has wronged his brother he must go and make it right.

Everyone who asks receives - this may be beyond us but this is Jesus' way

II. Test Him at point of goodness; in time of Jesus there were strange ideas of goodness, to some it meant keeping a lot of rules to neglect of spirit.

Some took the 1st Commandment and put - a leather box and wore it between the eyes - but Jesus said that was incomplete - There was another one to put in the box - "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self"

See - Good Samaritan

- a. Preacher passed the man
- b. man's chair passed
- c. Infidel - stopped -

III. Test by Conduct - not Golden rule - what He meant was: "This is the Bible"

Lots of people take risky attitudes when they get near the Bible asking such questions as - where did Cain get his wife?

was Eve made from a rib?

~~Did~~ Jonah swallowed by whale?

There were just incidents - Jesus did not say that as there hang the Law and Prophets - Jesus' Common sense looked on heart of Bible as some thing to build up in man right attitudes, Conscience of sin and lead to salvation

Rules do not make women any more
whales do not swallow Jonahs any more
more people than Cain find wives to-day
But Golden Rule is essential to-day -
Test Jesus by Conduct & He had Common sense

IV. Power of love as contrasted power
of physical force -

"Blessed are the meek or gentle for they
shall inherit the earth."

This sounded strange because
the victory arches had been built
for generals - But from that day
to this very battle has been settled
my war -

The millions who have gone
to heaven since did not go as result
of physical force -

It still holds good that the Common
sense of Jesus stands the test in
all countries - with all people - It
is as good as 60 generations
ago -

