



Citizens of Heaven - Week 4

Restoration Over Rules

Luke 12:13-21

Citizens of Heaven don't let rules get in the way of restoration.

It's (Still)The Season of Pentecost!

“What did Paul mean when he said that “Our citizenship is in heaven?” This series will help us live according to the values of God’s kingdom.

Today we will read a story about Jesus healing a woman on the Sabbath, and how that went over with the overly-religious folk.

Our “rules and regulations” can act as blinders.

When we are not seen, and the pain it causes.

What is it about being given the “dignity of notice” that is life-giving?

When our systems of belief, our boundaries to love become impediments to Jesus’ ongoing work of restoration and renewal, we’ve lost the plot.

CITIZENS OF HEAVEN DON'T LET RULES GET IN THE WAY OF RESTORATION

Luke 13:10-17

- The woman in this story knew the pain of invisibility all too well.*
- “When Jesus saw her...” he sought her out; she didn't belong there.*
- “But the leader...” There's always someone who doesn't get it.*
- Jesus responds with a rabbinical argument: “How much more?”*
- He gives the woman a sacred title, “Daughter of Abraham.”*

The work of restoration that Jesus did here defied the religiosity of those who refused to see suffering and address it. He did it anyway.

What Do We Learn Here?

- 1. When we refuse to see suffering because of our religion, Jesus confronts.*
- 2. The church is not meant to be a country club or a gated community.*
- 3. If your religion keeps you from doing the work or restoration, it's not godly.*
- 4. Supporting systems that reward the barn-builders and harm the village.*

When I got this wrong, and how it changed me.

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

What Is God's Kingdom? And What Does Citizenship Look Like?

Cesar Garcia

What If Jesus Was Serious About Heaven?

Skye Jethani

On Earth As In Heaven

NT Wright

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