

Grace and Truth Part 6
Scandalous Grace
Luke 23:39-43

1. The first criminal represents the present Jewish religious order. The Temple and Torah.
 - a. Israel was looking for that king that would free them from exile.
 - b. Torah set the pattern of life for the people who had been rescued.
 - c. Jesus was offering a different agenda, one that will restore the People back to Him, not the Law.

If you lash out at what God is really trying to do, ultimately it will lead to judgement even though you may think it's unjust. Luke 23:40-41

2. Jesus is the New Covenant – what the relationship should be between man and God.
 - a. Jesus symbolized God's radical, scandalous acceptance and forgiveness. The Pharisees and Sadducees would see God's given forgiveness and acceptance only in terms of the Temple and Torah.
 - b. God's kingdom challenges us to a new way of life. A new way of prayer. A new way of Love and Grace that can be lived out in the community.

What do you find scandalous about Jesus' new covenant? Does it match how you are living today? What objections of Love and Grace are you still objecting to?

3. What our reaction should be to understanding Jesus' Kingdom.
 - a. What mattered to Jesus was not religion, but where you stand with God's Kingdom.
 - b. So what is being a Christian about, then? It's about the restored relationship that could not be accomplished through the law. It's the belief that in and through Jesus, in fulfillment of God's promises made through the old covenant, we are able to find saving grace, and receive new life.

Challenge:

Being a Christian, a follower, a believer of Christ Jesus is about Love and Grace, it's about the relationship, it always has been. We need to start seeing the meaning of being a Christian in a different more challenging tradition.

Sermon by Kevin McLouth – November 8, 2015
Next week: Grace and Truth Part 7 – Disciplined by Grace