

Volume 1 – Day 18: Morality or Motive

Jesus did not teach morality. Jesus did not teach justice and equity. Jesus did not teach responsible living. Jesus did not teach behavior management. Jesus did not teach social activism. All expressions of any of these are at best futile attempts to be *self-righteous*, or *a good person*. Even the Old Testament was grossly misunderstood as a behavioral approach to *rightness*. A more accurate understanding is that all of the rules and regulations of the Commandments of God were simply the revelation of the symptoms of the disease of selfishness (the antithesis of love). Anyone can see the natural consequences, that is relational carnage, that violation of the rules would produce. Your true morality quotient is determined by your motives.

Check out the story of the woman brought to Jesus who had been caught in the very act of adultery. Notice what Jesus said to her. “Neither do I condemn you, go and stop pursuing this lifestyle.” At the same time ponder the desire of the most religious men of Jesus’ day with respect to the woman. “Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned to death!” Consider then what these religious leaders did to Jesus shortly after this encounter (crucifixion). Why would Jesus ignore the Law and show mercy to the woman?

Who would you act like, Jesus or the religious leaders? Sometimes we get so caught up in compliance with the rules that we refuse to consider exercising mercy, forgiveness and grace. Yet, we always cry out for these when we are the offender!

My Confirming Scriptures:

My Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan