

North Christian Church -

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9/8/16 - The "Difficult" Passages - The Gospel Context

"the ends justifies the means"

NEVER in the Bible is this method considered godly. In fact, the Word of God tells us that it is better to suffer for what is right than to do something wrong! (eg. 1Pe 2:20; 3:17; 4:19)

Taking Things Out of Context

It's really easy, and often advantageous to the flesh, to take things out of context, to debate with God about His will for us. The pattern for doing so is clear - it's the same that Satan and the woman in the Garden followed. The result is a fall from holiness.

The result of taking Biblical things out of context is a fall from holiness.

The Gospel has context.

The Gospel Context (Mt 28:18-20)

- From: Jesus, "with all authority"
- To: "all the nations" (both Jews and Gentiles)
- What: "all that I commanded you" (when He was with them, aka the content of the 4 Gospels)

The Gospel Context (Mt 28:18-20)

If Jesus' words (eg. those found in the 4 Gospels) were supposedly ONLY for the Jews in the so-called Age of Israel, then why did He send the apostles (Jews) out to "all the nations" (including the Gentiles) with the ONLY Gospel they knew (the one He taught them, as described in the 4 Gospels)???

The Gospel Context

We're talking about the same Gospel because we're talking about the same PERSON!!! Jesus is Jesus. The Savior is the Savior. There's only one Person in view, therefore there's only one Gospel! (this is what Paul was fighting against in 2Co 11:4).

The Gospel Context

Before His Cross, believers trusted God that He'd send their Messiah/Savior. After His Cross, believers trust God that He's sent their Messiah/Savior. There's only

one Jesus. One Person means one Gospel. Christ is not divided, nor is His Gospel.

The Gospel Context (Mk)

- Historically: Jesus preached His Gospel in His lifetime, as did His Jewish apostles/disciples
- Audience: Jesus preached the same Gospel to both Jews and Gentiles, as did His Jewish apostles/disciples
- Presentation: Jesus used different language/idioms/etc. to relate His Gospel to different people, but the underlying content was always the same

Ro 1:9

For God, whom I [Paul] serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son [same Gospel as in Mk 1:1], is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you,

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The Gospel Context

The Gospel context must be tied to the Person of Jesus Christ. If a person ties it to something artificial, like hyper-dispensationalism, they have lost their context!

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The Gospel has context.

The Gospel Context

The Bible speaks about two types of people, unbelievers and believers. The Gospel is always presented in this context because it concerns the salvation of man (eg. Mt 7:13-29). The only time Gospel passages become "difficult" is when people make further divisions (eg. from errant context).

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