

Adonai, Yahweh, Jehovah, The One True God, The God of Israel, The Lord of Hosts, The King of Israel, The One and Only True God, The Righteous Word of God Almighty, The Sacrificial Lamb, The Lion of the

**The Life and Times of**  
**Jesus Christ**

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of  
the beginning and the ending, The First and the Last,  
The Only Real, Living and Breathing God, He Who Is,  
He Who Was, and He Who Will Be Forever, Abba  
Father, Our Creator, Our God, Our Soul's Beloved, God

# **Part 19**

## **Jesus Values Faith and Reconciliation More Than Rules**

**Matthew**

**Mark**

**Luke**

**John**

**Matthew 8:1-4**

**Mark 1:40-45**

**Luke 5:12-16**

# **Matthew 8:1 - NIV**

**When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him.**

# Mark 1:40

A man with leprosy came to him  
and begged him on his knees,  
“If you are willing, you can make  
me clean.”

# Mark 1:41

Jesus was filled with compassion[i].

He reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!”

# Mark 1:42

Immediately the leprosy left him  
and he was cleansed.



# Mark 1:43

Jesus sent him away at once with  
a strong warning:

# Mark 1:44

**“See that you don’t tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”**

# Mark 1:45a

Instead he went out and began to  
talk freely, spreading the news.

# **Mark 1:45b**

**As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.**

# **Part 19**

**Jesus Values Faith and  
Reconciliation More  
Than Rules**

# Principle #1

**The story of humanity begins and ends in an intimate, loving relationship with the LORD God in paradise.**

# Principle #2

**Because the Lord desires to reveal His heart to us, He will sometimes choose to make an exception to His own rules.**

# Mark 1:40

A man with leprosy came to him  
and begged him on his knees,  
“If you are willing, you can make  
me clean.”



# Mark 1:41

Jesus was filled with compassion.

He reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!"

# **Lepers and Leprosy**

- **Contagious skin disease**
- **A punishment for sin**
- **The leper was “unclean”**
- **Had to live in isolation**
- **Had to yell out “unclean, unclean”  
when coming near people**
- **God said, do not touch them**

# Principle #2

**Because the Lord desires to reveal His heart to us, He will sometimes choose to make an exception to His own rules.**

# Principle #3

**The Lord sometimes makes exceptions to His own rules, because there is a difference between the Spirit of the Law and the Letter of the Law.**

# Mark 1:40

A man with leprosy came to him  
and begged him on his knees,  
“If you are willing, you can make  
me clean.”

# Mark 1:41

Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man.

“I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!”

# Principle #3

**The Lord sometimes makes exceptions to His own rules, because there is a difference between the Spirit of the Law and the Letter of the Law.**

# Principle #4

**When the LORD makes an exception to His rule it is not so that someone can live however they want (free from God's laws), but so that they can be free to intimately know, love, and be in relationship with the LORD God.**



# Exceptions to the Rule

- **Aaron as High Priest**
- **Ruth the Moabite in Christ's family**
- **Hosea marrying Gomer**
- **David remained king after his sins against Bathsheba and Uriah**
- **Peter as lead Apostle**
- **Paul becomes an Apostle**

# Principle #4

**When the LORD makes an exception to His rule it is not so that someone can live however they want (free from God's laws), but so that they can be free to intimately know, love, and be in relationship with the LORD God.**

# Principle #5

**Christ's desire to be in an intimate, loving relationship with you is infinitely greater than the power of sin, evil, and wickedness to contaminate, destroy, and kill.**

# **Romans 5:20 NLT**

**God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant.**

# **Romans 5:21 NLT**

**So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

# Principle #5

**Christ's desire to be in an intimate, loving relationship with you is infinitely greater than the power of sin, evil, and wickedness to contaminate, destroy, and kill.**

# Principle #6

**Rules in general are good,  
but they are not perfect.**

# Problems with Rules

- We only “remember” and enforce the ones we agree with.
- Rules are extremely important when it comes to you but minor when it comes to me.
- Rules can be easily bent.



# Problems with Rules

- Rules do not take into account special circumstances, nor do they evaluate things on a case-by-case basis.
- We can treat rules like a list of items that can simply be checked off.

# Problems with Rules

- Rules can be followed with a cold heart.
- Rules can be followed without ever causing us to change our thinking.
- Rules are open to interpretation and thereby, open to manipulation.

# Principle #6

**Rules in general are good,  
but they are not perfect.**

# Principle #7

**Christianity is not a religion of rules;  
it is a reconciled, faith-based  
relationship with King Jesus.**

# **Part 19**

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