

Quotes

John Wesley

It is the ordinary method of the Spirit of God to convict sinners by the Law. It is this which, being set home in the conscience, generally breaketh the rocks in pieces. It is more especially this part of the Word of God which is quick and powerful, full of life and energy and sharper than any two-edged sword.

Martin Luther

The proper effect of the Law is to lead us out of our tents and tabernacles, that is to say, from the quietness and security wherein we dwell, and from trusting in ourselves, and to bring us before the presence of God, to reveal His wrath to us, and to set us before our sins.

Billy Graham

The Holy Spirit convicts us...He shows us the Ten Commandments; the Law is the schoolmaster that leads us to Christ. We look at the mirror of the Ten Commandments, and we see ourselves in that mirror.

Charles Spurgeon

We must thrust the Sword of the Spirit into the hearts of men.

Todd P. McCollum

Evangelism is the cure to the disease of church boredom

Scott Hinkle

You do not have to be perfect to share the love of Christ with someone. But you do have to be pursuing a right relationship with God. If you are not, your witnessing will be ineffective.

Charles Spurgeon

No pursuit of mortal men is to be compared with that of soul-winning.

Author Unkown

The early disciples were fishers of men - while modern disciples are often little more than aquarium keepers.

Charles Spurgeon

The conscience of a man, when he is really quickened and awakened by the Holy Spirit, speaks the truth. It rings the great alarm bell. And if he turns over in his bed, that great alarm bell rings out again and again, "The wrath to come! The wrath to come!"

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Biblical Evangelism

Using The Divine Law

(The Ten Commandments)



1. "You shall have no other gods before Me"
(God should be Number One)



2. "You shall not make yourself any graven image"
(Don't bow down to anything but God)



3. "You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain" (Don't use your lips to dishonor God)



4. "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy"
(Don't neglect the things of God)



5. "Honor your Father and your Mother"



6. "You shall not kill"



7. "You shall not commit adultery"
(Adultery leaves a heart broken)



8. "You shall not steal"



9. "You shall not lie"
(a "lying" nine)



10. "You shall not covet"
(want what others have)

Psalm 19:7
The law of the Lord is perfect
converting the soul...

James 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

Romans 7:7 ...I had not known sin, but by the law...

Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

The "Good" News

If I were to come to you and tell you that someone you don't know just paid a \$25,000 speeding ticket on your behalf it wouldn't be "good" news to you, it would be foolishness and offensive - you would say "I don't *have* a \$25,000 speeding ticket and would be offensive because I would be insinuating that you've broken the law when you don't think you have.

However, if I were to tell you that, on the way to this meeting, the law clocked you at 55 mph through an area set aside for a blind children's convention, there were ten clear warning signs stating that 15 mph was the limit but you went straight through at 55 mph. What you did was extremely dangerous, the law was about to take its course when someone you don't know, stepped in and paid your fine for you. You are very fortunate.

Can you see how telling you what you've done wrong *first* actually makes the good news make sense?

Approaching an Unbeliever

In the same way, when we approach an unbeliever and say to him that Jesus died on the cross for his sins, it will be foolishness to him and offensive because as far as he's concerned, there are many people much worse than him.

It would make sense, however, if we were to first bring instruction to him through the Law and allow the Divine Law to serve the purpose for which it was intended, to convert the soul. (Psa 19:7) The good news of Christ's sacrifice will make sense after the Law acts as a mirror to the soul of the unbeliever so that he sees himself in his sin as God does and realizes how it leaves him guilty before the judgment seat of God.

Quotes

John Wesley

Before I can preach love, mercy and grace, I must preach sin, Law and judgment.

Ozward Chambers

Conscience is the internal perception of God's Moral Law.

Martin Luther

The first duty of the gospel preacher is to declare God's Law and show the nature of sin.

Charles Spurgeon

They will never accept grace until the tremble before a just and Holy Law.

Matthew Henry

Of this excellent use is the Law: it converts the soul, opens the eyes, prepares the way of the Lord in the desert, rends the rocks, levels the mountains, makes a people prepared for the Lord.

Four Principles to Follow from Jesus' Example (continued)

truth of each Commandment. Don't be afraid to gently ask, "Have you ever stolen something, even if it's small?" Show him how God considers lust to be the same as adultery (Matthew 5:27,28) and hatred the same as murder (1 John 3:15) Make sure you get an admission of guilt. Then you can ask the person "If God judges you by the Ten Commandments on Judgment Day, do you think you'll be innocent or guilty?" If he says he will be innocent, ask, "Why is that?" If he admits his guilt, ask, "Do you think you will go to heaven or hell?"

From there the conversation may go one of three ways:

1) *He may confidently say, "I don't believe in hell."* Gently respond, "That doesn't matter. You still have to face God on Judgment Day whether you 'believe' in it or not. If I step onto the freeway when a massive truck is heading for me and I say, "I don't believe in trucks," my lack of belief isn't going to change reality."

Then tenderly tell him he has already admitted to you that he has lied, stolen and committed adultery in his heart, and that God gave him a conscience so that he would know right from wrong. His conscience and the conviction of the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

2) *He may say that he's guilty, but that he will go to heaven.* This is usually because he thinks that God is "good," and that He will, therefore, overlook sin in his case. Point out that if a judge in a criminal case has a guilty murderer standing before him, the judge, if he is a good man, can't just let him go. He must ensure that the guilty man is punished. If God is good, He must (by nature) punish murders, rapist, thieves, liars, adulterers, fornicators and those who've lived in rebellion to God.

3) *He may admit that he is guilty and therefore going to hell.* Ask him if that concerns him. Speak to him about how much he values his eyes and how much more therefore he should value the salvation of his soul. If possible read Luke 16:19-31 with him.

4) Jesus revealed Himself to her (v. 26)

Once the Law has humbled the person, he is ready for grace. Remember, the Bible says that God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble (James 4:6) The gospel is for the humble (Luke 4:18) Only the sick need a physician, and only those who will admit they have the disease of sin will truly embrace the cure of the gospel.

Learn how to present the work of the cross - that God sent His Son to suffer and die in our place. Simply say, "It's as simple as this: We broke God's Law, Jesus paid our fine. If you will repent and trust in the Savior, God will forgive your sins and dismiss your case" Ask him if he is willing to pray now to accept Jesus as his Savior.

Light to Dust

You've just dusted the table clean and decide to pull back the curtains to let in the early morning light. What is that you see on the table? Dust. In the air? Dust. Did the light create the dust? No, it simply exposed the dust. In the same way the light of God's Law is a mirror to show us as we truly are in God's eyes, exposing the sin in our lives.

Personal Witness

Jesus gives us the example for personal witness in John 4:7-26 with the woman at the well. He first starts in the natural world by asking for a drink of water then swung the conversation over to the spiritual, referring to Himself as the Living Water. He then revealed to her that she had broken the seventh commandment and finally Himself as the Messiah.

Four Principles to Follow from Jesus' Example

1) Jesus began in the natural realm (v. 7)

This woman was unregenerate, and the Bible tells us "the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God" (1 Cor 2:14) He therefore spoke of something she could relate to, water. We should be able to start up a conversation with a stranger with a "How are you doing?" and then if the response is warm then move on to ask, "Do you live around here?" or something similar.

2) Jesus swung the conversation to the spiritual realm (v. 10)

He simply mentioned things of God. This will take courage. We may say something like, "Did you go to church on Sunday?" or "Did you see that Christian TV program last week?" If you receive a positive response you can get an idea of his background by asking "Do you have a Christian background?" He may answer, "I went to church when I was a child, but I drifted away from it."

Another simple way to swing to the spiritual is to offer the person a gospel tract and ask, "Did you get one of these?" When he takes it, simply say, "It's a gospel tract. Do you come from a Christian background?"

3) Jesus brought conviction using the Law of God (vv. 16-18)

Jesus gently spoke to her conscience by alluding to the fact that she had transgressed the Seventh of the Ten Commandments. He used Law to bring "the knowledge of sin" (Rom 3:19,20)

We can do the same by asking "Do you think you've kept the Ten Commandments?" Most people think they have so quickly follow with, "Have you ever told a lie?" This is confrontational, but if its asked in a spirit of love and gentleness, there won't be any offense. Remember that the "work of the Law is written in their hearts" and that the conscience will bear "witness" (Romans 2:15) Have confidence that the conscience will do its work and affirm the

Functions of God's Law

Psalms 19:7

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul...

Romans 3: 19

Now we know that what things soever the law says, it says to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

I John 3:4

Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Romans 7:7

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law...

Galatians 3:11

But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith.

Galatians 3:24

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Romans 2:15

Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness...

Con - "with", science - "knowledge" - So then, with the law written on our hearts and our conscience bearing witness, it can be said that we are sinning "with knowledge" that it is against God's Law.

1 Tim 1:8-9

⁸*But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;*

⁹*Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners...*

Hebrews 9:27

And it is appointed to men once to die, but after this the judgment;

2 Corinthians 7:10

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation...

Hebrews 10:16-17

¹⁶*This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, said the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them;*

¹⁷*And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.*

Improve Your Flight

Here is a story of two airplane passengers who are both told to wear a parachute, but for different reasons.

First Passenger

The first passenger is told to put the parachute on because it would improve his flight. He is skeptical at first but decides to give it a try and puts the parachute on. Immediately he feels its weight upon his shoulders and how difficult it is to sit upright. The other passengers begin to look at him and laugh, mocking him. At this he pulls off the parachute and throws it to the ground in disgust. His heart is filled with bitterness toward those who gave him the parachute because, as far as he's concerned, he was told an outright lie. And it will be a LONG time before anyone gets one of those things on his back again.

Second Passenger

The second passenger was told to put the parachute on because at any moment throughout the flight he would have to jump out of the plane at 25,000 ft. He gladly puts the parachute on, not noticing its weight upon his shoulders nor the other passengers mocking him. His mind is consumed with the thought of what would happen to him if he were to jump without that parachute.

Modern Evangelism

In the same way, if we were to approach an unbeliever and say that he needed to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and if he did he would receive love, joy, peace and lasting happiness - He would come for the wrong motive and would very likely fall away being likened as a stoney ground hearer, receiving the word with joy and gladness but not having roots enough to stand. He would put on the Savior in an *experimental* manner to see if the claims are true. Then, when the promised persecution and tribulation comes he would likely fall away. In essence we have told him that Jesus would improve his flight and when the flight gets bumpy he becomes bitter, casting off the savior and resenting those that had told him this "good news".

Biblical Evangelism

However, if we were to first bring instruction, through the Law, of how he has transgressed the Law, "sinned" before God, (1 John 3:4) allowing the Law to reveal to him how God looks on sin and how it separates us from Him, he will accept the Lord with true joy and gladness! This time when the flight gets bumpy he will not cast off the Savior - he didn't come for a better flight, he came to be saved from the wrath to come! In fact tribulation will drive the true believer closer to the Father, clinging tightly to the Savior, even looking forward to the jump.

A.B. Earl Quote

I have found by long experience that the severest threatenings of the Law of God have a prominent place in leading men to Christ. They must see themselves as lost before they will cry for mercy, they will not escape danger until they see it.

Biblical Evangelism has always been:

Law to the proud and Grace to the humble.

With the Law He breaks the hard heart and with the Gospel He heals the broken heart.

Never will you see Jesus giving the gospel to a proud, arrogant man, because He always did those things that please the Father.

God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble

Law to the Proud

Luke 10:25-37 Professing Expert on God's Law tested Jesus

Jesus gave him the Law because he was a proud, arrogant, self righteous man that was not seeking the truth but was in essence saying "And what do *you* think I must do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus gave him Law and when he was willing to justify himself by asking who was his "neighbor". Jesus told him the parable of the "good" Samaritan who simply obeyed the most basic of the commandments, loving his neighbor as himself.

Luke 18:18-25 Rich young ruler wants eternal life

Jesus gave him five horizontal commandments relating to man, and when he said he had kept this since his youth Jesus told him he lacked one thing. Jesus knew this man's god was his money. When he told him to sell all he had, distribute it to the poor and follow him the man became very sorrowful because he loved his money more than God.

Grace to the Humble

John 3:1-21 Nicodemus

Nicodemus humbly came to Jesus recognizing the deity of Christ.

Acts 2 Jews on the day of Pentecost

Devout Jews who were humble of heart there to celebrate the giving of God's law on Mt. Sinai.

1 Timothy 1:8

Law is good when used for the purpose for which it was designed.

1 Timothy 1:9

.. The Law is not made for a righteous man..but for the ungodly and for sinners..