

Clip – God in a box

A **loophole** is an ambiguity or inadequacy in a system, such as a law or security, which can be used to circumvent or otherwise avoid the purpose, implied or explicitly stated, of the system.

When we turn faith into a religious system we begin to think we control it and we apply it as we see fit.

How fast can I go if the speed limit is 70 mph without getting a ticket?

Answer: 70 mph

THE ANSWER

HOW MUCH
SIN CAN I GET
AWAY WITH AND
STILL GO TO
HEAVEN ?!

CREEDS *or* DEEDS

Jesus tells us we are experts at finding the loopholes in God's will for us. But his point isn't that we should be better. His point is that we need him to restore our relationship with God.

The Pharisees are more concerned about outward appearances than an actual relationship with God.



***If it isn't making our
relationship with God
or each other better
why are we doing it!***

- “What purposes does the Law then serve?”
- First, the Law helps to control violent outbursts of sin and keeps order in the world (a curb).
- Second, the Law accuses us and shows us our sin (a mirror).
- Third, the Law teaches us Christians what we should and should not do to live a God-pleasing life (a guide). The power to live according to the Law comes from the Gospel.”

"You must understand this, my beloved: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, Slow to anger for your anger does not produce God's righteousness."

James 1:19

CREEDS *or* DEEDS

James is responding to the attitude that if Jesus does it all and forgives all our sins and it isn't about what we do. Then why do anything?

***It isn't about what
you do... but what you
do is important!***

CREEDS *or* DEEDS

We need Jesus to restore our relationship with God. The Good News is that he does with or with out us. We do what we do because we are grateful it is with us!

Jesus tells us that we must be changed from within. That change can only come from Jesus being in us, with us, and leading us.

And when he is in us, with us, and leading us we will never be the same.

