Luke 13:10-17

Introduction

Living the Christian life is a difficult balancing act. We strive to follow the example of Jesus who was the epitome of truth and grace balanced correctly. We all have tendencies to live more on the grace side of the equation which can lead to neglecting holiness, or we tend toward the truth side of the equation and end up in the trap of legalism. This passage speaks to the balance of truth and grace.

<u>Scripture</u>

Luke 13:10-17 On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, 11 and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." 13 Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

14 Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

15 The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? 16 Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

17 When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

Closer Look

1. What is the Sabbath? For what purposes did God command its observance?

2. In what ways do followers of Christ neglect the Sabbath or miss its intended purpose?

3. How does the attitude of the synagogue leader demonstrate to us the tendency of the leaders in Jesus' day regarding truth and grace?

4. How does Jesus' answer bring clarity to God's expectations regarding the Sabbath?

5. Why were Jesus' opponents humiliated at His answer?

6. What are ways to seek balance in our own lives regarding truth and grace?

Scripture for the day: Monday – Exodus 20:8-11 Tuesday – Mark 2:27-28 Wednesday – Hebrews 4:8-11 Thursday – Hebrews 4:14-16 Friday – Matthew 11:28-30