

YOUR

Opinions

Luke 10:30-37

Opinion

matters

Opinions

- **Psalms 24:1 NLT**, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.”
 - Is this verse true?
 - You realize God’s Word being true does not rest upon your belief
 - What would be excluded?
 - What about your attitude or opinions, do they belong to the Lord?

Opinions

- Opinion = A view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge. An estimation of the quality or worth of someone or something.
- Some common synonyms of opinion are *belief, conviction, persuasion, sentiment, and view*. All these words mean "a judgment one holds as true," opinion implies a conclusion thought out yet open to dispute.
 - Are your opinions open for dispute?

Opinions

- I believe it is your opinions that govern the decisions you make, how you see yourself and others, how you live your Christian life
 - **1st Kings 18:21 NIV**, “Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”
 - What caused Adam and Eve to make the decision to disobey God’s Word?

Opinions

- **Luke 10:25 NIV**, On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
 - Wonderful question each one of us must ask, but we must be open and teachable to the response of Jesus Christ
- **Luke 10:26 NIV**, “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”
 - What is Jesus asking?
 - What is your opinion (*How do you read it?*) about what is written in the Law

Opinions

- **Luke 10:27 NIV**, He answered, ““Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”
 - This was a correct answer from a deceptive heart
- **Luke 10:28-29 NIV**, “28 You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” 29 But he wanted to justify himself (*his opinions*), so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”
- Jesus told a very popular parable called “The Good Samaritan”

Scripture

- **Luke 10:30-37 NIV**, 30 In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

Scripture

- **Luke 10:30-37 NIV**, 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’
 - 36 “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” 37 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Let's modernize this parable a little

- You are a rancher in Texas whose ranch borders the Mexican border
- You have paths in your fields from the many immigrants walking through it
- Your fences keep getting torn down and no one seems to be doing anything about it
- Checking your fences one day, you hear a weak voice crying “ayuda por favor” coming from the ditch outside of your property
- What are your options?

Let's modernize this parable a little

- What are your options?
 - Act like you didn't hear anything since it is not on your property, not your problem
 - Call Border Patrol and continue checking your fences, once again not your problem
 - Cross over the fence and see what help is needed
- What do you do? How do you make that decision as a born-again child of God?
- That depends upon your opinion of yourself and the person in the ditch

The opinion you have of yourself, and others, determines your success in walking the spiritual path God has for you

- 1st Samuel 16 tells of the anointing of King David
 - **1st Samuel 16:12b-13 NIV**, 12 Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.” 13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.
 - David did not have the physical throne yet, but David was the King of Israel even while running for his life

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- You begin to see it in his decisions made:
 - Killing of lion and bear, Goliath, not killing King Saul himself
 - **1st Samuel 22:1** So David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. Soon his brothers and all his other relatives joined him there. 2 Then others began coming—men who were in trouble or in debt or who were just discontented—until David was the captain of about 400 men.

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- Genesis 37 we have dreams given to Joseph on two occasions
 - Joseph did not have it all figured out, but he knew at some point his life would be in a place of honor for the benefit of his family
 - He did not know when, but he saw himself as God did and made decisions as if he already was
 - You see it in the rejection of Potiphar's wife
 - Living where others could trust him in prison
 - Trusting God with the timing until the day he was made second in command in all of Egypt

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- Genesis 37 we have the dreams given to Joseph on two occasions
 - You see it in the way he accepted his brothers, **Genesis 50:19-21 NIV**, 19 But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

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- The purpose of the priesthood and Levites was to serve God in the temple and to serve God's people wherever they found themselves
 - They were good at the temple stuff but lousy at serving His people
 - They saw themselves above the needs of touching the hurting, suffering, broken, battered
 - They were prideful, arrogant rather than humble
 - The result - they saw the need, crossed the road, and left the need unfilled – Why?

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- The Samaritan did not have the same call on his life as the priest and Levite, but he had something better
 - The heart of God's mercy and grace in his decisions
- What about you, what opinion do you have of yourself?
- Are you just a sinner saved by grace and nothing else
 - **NO**
 - You are a born-again child of the Living King full of grace and beauty

The opinion you have of yourself, and others, determines your success in walking the spiritual path God has for you

- Are you just a sinner saved by grace and nothing else
 - You have been endowed with the Holy Spirit bringing gifts to enhance your God given path
 - You are already more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus
 - You are the body of Christ in this dark and broken world
 - You are the hands of Jesus
 - You are the feet of Jesus

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- You are the body of Christ in this dark and broken world
 - You are the tears of Jesus
 - You are the comforter and encourager of Jesus
 - Even if it doesn't seem that way now
- Use the eyes of faith just as David, Joseph and Peter had to
- See yourself for who you really are, not in an arrogant or prideful way, but in humility knowing who you were but living in who you are

Don't let the opinion of others cloud your spiritual walk

- Song – This Little Light of Mine
 - Don't let Satan or anyone else snuff out the sight of who you are in Christ Jesus, in your eyes
- **1st Samuel 17:28 NIV**, 28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."

Don't let the opinion of others cloud your spiritual walk

- **Genesis 39:13-14 NIV**, 13 When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house, 14 she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed. 15 When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”

Don't let the opinion of others cloud your spiritual walk

- **John 1:45-46 NIV**, 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip.
- Craig Goeschel – After going through his religious studies was told by the board, he did not have what it took to be a pastor

Don't let the opinion of others cloud your spiritual walk

- This could have destroyed David, but he knew who he was
- It could have turned Joseph into a bitter man, but he knew the call on his life
- It could have tarnished the image of Jesus Christ in the minds of other
- It could have prevented one called by God to preach like Greg
- They did not let others determine their burning heart and the direction God was leading
- The result – they became the person God saw buried deep within

The only opinion of you that really matters is God's

- Moses you are a mighty leader for my people as God spoke to him on the backside of the mountain tending sheep
 - Moses became the vision God had for him
- Joshua you are the one to follow Moses and lead my people into the land promised to them, be strong and be brave
- Gideon you are a mighty warrior
 - Gideon didn't even believe that at the time, but he became one

The only opinion of you that really matters is God's

- Peter you are a rock in the church
 - Even after denying Jesus three-time Peter became the Peter Jesus saw him to be
- The priest and Levite saw themselves through their own eyes or the eyes of the religious leaders at the time thus walked away
- The Samaritan saw himself through the eyes of grace and mercy and became the hands of Jesus Christ

The only opinion of you that really matters is God's

- So, let me ask you, whose opinion are you seeing yourself through today?
 - Whose words are constantly blasting your brain?
 - Is it the rejection you have received (*think Joseph*)?
 - Is it your physical life now (*think Moses*)?
 - Is it your failures of the past (*think Peter*)?
 - Is it the perceived fears of the future (*think Joshua*)?
- Will you step through the fence and touch the lives of those in the ditch, in need, like the Samaritan?

YOUR

Opinions

Luke 10:30-37

Opinion

matters