

## The Law Is Good If A Man Use It Lawfully

### I. Introduction:

A. The Pharisees came to Jesus with questions about what was lawful concerning putting away one's wife (**Matthew 19:1-12**).

1. Their motive in their "biblical questions" was to tempt Christ as they often attempted (**Matthew 22:15-22**, **Luke 11:53-43**, etc.).
2. They used the Scriptures (**Matthew 12:1-2**).
3. However, they did not seek to use them properly (**Matthew 12:3-8**; cf. **Matthew 23:23-24**).

B. We are cautioned not to twist the Scriptures to our destruction (**II Peter 3:15-18**).

1. What that means is, don't take Scriptures and move them to fit your conclusions (i.e. **Matthew 22:23-32**).
2. It has long been a problem that people create new doctrines by perverting the truth (**Galatians 1:6-7**).

### II. Body: I Timothy 1:1-11

A. Not giving heed to stories and things intended to render unprofitable questions (**II Timothy 2:14-18** and **Titus 3:9-11**).

1. Using the law here for a reason. These things turn people away from the truth (**Titus 1:14**).
2. These unprofitable questions lead to envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, etc. Therefore, we are to withdraw ourselves from those that promote such (**I Timothy 6:3-5**).

B. Approaching the Scriptures with charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned (**II Timothy 2:22**, **I Peter 1:22**, and **I Peter 4:8**).

1. Think about how this provides the ultimate motive check (**Mark 12:28-34**; cf. **Galatians 5:14**).
2. However, remember that a clear conscience is not, by itself, a safe standard (**Acts 9:1** and **Acts 23:1**; cf. **I Corinthians 15:9** and **I Timothy 1:12-16**).
3. Any Jew could have Scripturally justified killing followers of Christ (**Leviticus 24:16** and **John 10:30-33**) through ignorance of who Christ was even according to their law (**Isaiah 9:6-7**; cf. **Luke 1:26-38**).

C. Though learning, not understanding what we say or affirm (**II Timothy 3:7**).

1. Just because someone is taught, even the truth by the best teacher, that doesn't mean that person understands it (**Matthew 15:1-20**).
2. Consider how some in Corinth said things, but didn't consider what they were really affirming (**I Corinthians 15:12-34**).

2. Understanding comes through continuous learning (**Proverbs 1:5** and **Proverbs 15:14**).
  3. It takes work (**Proverbs 4:7**) and investment (**Proverbs 23:23**).
- D. Using the law of God in the manner it was intended for (**II Corinthians 2:17** and **Colossians 2:8-17**).
1. Not using your liberties in the Law in selfish ways (**I Corinthians 8:1-13**).
  2. Not using the law of God to trap people (**Mark 3:1-2**).
  3. Not using the law of God to establish our own righteousness (**Romans 9:30-10:3**).
  4. Not using lawful things to the point of abuse (**I Corinthians 7:31**).
  5. Not using the Law of God to further the causes of strife, debate, division, etc. (**II Corinthians 12:20** and **Ephesians 4:14-16**; cf. **Romans 16:17-18**).

III. Conclusion: Let's use the law of the Lord as intended. Its intended use is for the salvation of ourselves and others (**Psalms 19:7** and **II Timothy 3:15**).