

GIVE NOT WHICH IS HOLY UNTO THE DOGS MATTHEW 7:6

Text: Matthew 7:6

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⁶ Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Introduction:

The counsel from the Lord in this passage reminds us to give preference to good over evil.

This verse isn't politically correct in our day.

This verse which says to withhold things of value from evil people is counsel the world says discriminates against some people.

Even in the church this text is not well received. Let someone dare to oppose the membership of a person who does not represent Christianity well or oppose an unqualified person from taking an office at church and you will see some challenge this text.

To understand this passage about preference given by the Lord we'll consider the explanation, example, and exhortation about preference.

1. THE EXPLANATION

This text about preference has three important parts to it that we will look at.

Note:

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A. The Valuable – Holy

The valuable is described by the words holy and pearls.

They refer to spiritual and moral character which is the most valuable things in life.

These valuable things include the:

- Word of God

- Purity

- Honesty

- Faithfulness

B. The Vile – Dog & Swine

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These represent that which is evil in character.

Dogs in those days were not like dogs today. Dogs then were savage and snarling dogs, dogs that would bite the hand that was feeding them.

These dogs were savage, scavengers, fierce, dangerous, half wild animals.

Hogs were detestable. They were forbidden for sacrifice.

They were considered unclean.

The dogs and hogs in our text represent the grossly depraved that have no appreciation for noble character.

They show the effect of sin.

C. The Violence – Lest they trample under their feet, and turn again

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If we ignore this counsel it will most certainly results in being a victim of violence.

The violence spoken of in this text involves two things:

- Trampling on the gift

Wicked men have no respect for the most valuable things of life.

They despise the things of God.

They use God's name in vain.

To give these individuals holy things is to dishonor holy things.

- Rend the giver

When there is no respect for the gift, there will be no respect for the giver.

They will rend the giver.

2. THE EXAMPLES

Now we will consider at examples of the practicing of the principles of the counsel.

A. The Saviour

The Lord unlike many preachers practiced what He preached. He did not cast pearls before the swine. We can trace this practice in:

- His Ministry
- His Men
- His murder

B. The Saints

- Paul
- David

C. The Scriptures

There are also some noteworthy precepts in Scripture which support this principle.

Proverbs 23:9

⁹ Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

Proverbs 9:8

⁸ Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

3. THE EXHORTATION

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A. Exhortation for Companionship

We are not to give the pearl of our character, virtue, and purity to in friendship, companionship, to some vile swine like character.

You pay a great price.

B. Exhortation for the Church

G. Campbell Morgan said that giving holy things to dogs and pearls to pigs is the churches ruin.

When we let the unconverted into church membership, hold offices in the church with privileges, we destroy the testimony and work of the church.

When we invite apostate ministers who are swine in doctrine and dogs in character we ruin the work of evangelism.

We will only hurt the church when we allow the vile into the church.

The church must not give holy honor to the unholy.

Close:

May God give us wisdom as we obey this counsel of the Lord.