

Weightier Matters

(Hosea 6:6)

- Introduction:
1. Some people may be shocked to learn that not everything in the Bible contains the same weight or importance.
 2. While all of God's word is true and important, not all of God's word is equally important.
 3. You might say that in order to be a good Christian, we must engage in a little "biblical triage."
 4. Let's take a look at a passage which teaches us some of the weightier matters of the law.

I. The Principle Illustrated

- A. (Matthew 23:23).
- B. (Leviticus 10:1-20).

II. Hosea 6:6

- A. Mercy Over Sacrifice.
 1. One cannot find favor with God while mistreating his fellow-man.
 2. In other words, it takes more than going to church to please the Lord.
 3. (Luke 10:30-36).
 4. How can we, who have been forgiven so much, fail to be merciful to others?
 5. (Matthew 18:21-35).
 6. (James 2:13).
- B. Knowledge Over Worship/Burnt Offerings.
 1. Is this surprising? It seems to me that people act as though the opposite is true.
 2. (2 Peter 3:18).
 3. Do your life demonstrate that you understand that knowledge of God and his word is a weightier matter?
 4. How well do you know your Bible?
 - a. Could you tell me what these books are about (Naham, Amos, Obadiah, 3 John)?
 - b. Could you tell me who these biblical characters were (Ahimelech, Athaliah, Kohath, Nabal, or what about Agabus, Simeon, Sergius Paulus, or Demetrius)?

- Conclusion:
1. The point of this lesson is not to suggest that we can leave undone the "lesser" things - Jesus tells us we cannot do that (Matthew 23:23).
 2. The point is to help us to prioritize and focus on the right things or to say it another way, to help keep us from majoring in minors.
 3. This morning, we've discussed two things, mercy and knowledge, which God says are majors. The question remains how you will treat them.