

THE LAW OF FIRST THINGS

Joey Faust
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TEXT: Matthew 19:8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but **from the beginning** it was not so.

REVIEW:

- 1. The Devil in the Details - Accomplice and Accessory (*Before the Fact*)**
- 2. Lesser to Greater Argument**
- 3. Accomplice and Accessory (*After the Fact*)**
- 4. Greater to Lesser Argument**

"Have ye not read what **David** did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him...Or **have ye not read** in the law, how that on the sabbath days **the priests** in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless? But I say unto you, That in this place **is one greater** than the temple."

Matthew 19:3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife **for every cause?**

4 And he answered and said unto them, **Have ye not read,** that he which made them **at the beginning made** them male and female,

5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. **What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**

7 They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?

8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but **from the beginning it was not so.**

Deuteronomy 24:1 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that **she find no favour in his eyes**, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.

2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.

3 And if the latter husband **hate her**, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house...

Permissive Will.

**Prescriptive, Preferential
(Perfect) Will.**

"...the way a word is first used in the Bible will be the way this word is largely understood thereafter."

(R.T. Kendall, *Understanding Theology*, Vol. 2)

"I find in Scripture a principle of interpretation...The first mention of a thing, the very first words of any subject of which the Holy Spirit is going to treat, are the keystone of the whole matter."

(B.W. Newton)

"The first time a word occurs in the Scriptures gives the key to understand its meaning in **every** other place."

(F.E. Marsh, *The Structural Principles of the Bible*)

Genesis 1:5 And God called **the light Day**, and the darkness he called **Night**. And the **evening and the morning were the first day**.

Hebrews 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the **first principles** of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Deuteronomy 4:6 Keep
therefore and do them; for
this is your wisdom and your
understanding in the sight of
the nations...**

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

**Psalm 111:10 The fear of the
Lord is the beginning of
wisdom: a good
understanding have all they
that **do** his commandments...**

Proverbs 2:3 Yea, if thou **criest** after knowledge, and **liftest up thy voice** for understanding;

4 If thou **seekest her as silver**, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

5 **Then** shalt thou understand **the fear of the Lord**, and find the knowledge of God.

6 For **the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth** cometh knowledge and understanding.

7 He layeth up sound wisdom for **the righteous...**

Matthew 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Mark 4:24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

25 For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

**Exodus 9:18 Behold, to morrow
about this time I will cause it to
rain a very grievous hail, such as
hath not been in Egypt since **the
foundation thereof** even until
now.**

Joshua 6:26 And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the Lord, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall **lay the foundation** thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he **set up the gates** of it.

Isaiah 41:22 Let them bring them forth,
and shew us **what shall happen**: let
them **shew the former things**, what they
be, that we may consider them, and
know the latter end of them; or declare
us things for to come.

Luke 6:49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that **without a foundation** built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

**1 Corinthians 3:11 For
other **foundation** can no
man lay than that is laid,
which is Jesus Christ.**

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, **knowing of whom thou hast learned them.**

**Psalm 11:3 If the
foundations be destroyed,
what can the righteous do?**

1. What are the results of not understanding the foundations?

2. What will happen if you try to lay them again in people?