

- applying the Gospel to specific cases, this week in relationships
- principle of 1st and 2nd things (Lewis) – a radical change is necessary
- a complete worldview/paradigm shift, not just Jesus as an add-on
- ultimately our sin, including in relationships, are a pursuit to please self, to find meaning in others

3 Paradoxes of Relationship in Scripture

1.) Love/Hate – Eph5:25 Tit2:4 Lk14:26ff Mt22:36ff

- Love God 1st, then out of that flows proper love to man
- otherwise we expect too much from something God did not intend for us to look to

2.) Not Fear/Fear – Prov24:21 Rom13:4 – Pr29:25 Heb13:6

- Fear God 1st, then out of that flows proper fear of man
- applied not only to kings, but to other potential fear relationships
- Ps93:1 – the Lord reigns – either He does or doesn't; either over men or not

3.) Please/Not Please – Gal1:10 1Cor10:33 1Thes2:4

- God is the Gospel – by faith we embrace who God is now and what He will do in the end
- Gospelizing our relationships is to be in proper relationships with the 1st and the 2nd
- Applied to spouse, children, friends, Christians, enemies
- this principle (1st and 2nd) applies not only to relationships, but also other legitimate things and pursuits – 1Tim6:17 Phil3:8 4:11-12
- Career – family reputation – house – car – education – fame – health
- Gospelizing these things enables us to enjoy them as gifts of God, but if they are withheld or taken from us to be able to bless the Lord
- We can only properly receive these things if we first let them go for the surpassing value of Christ
- To make any of them a 1st is to ultimately ruin the ability to enjoy them as God intends