



Sin and the Poverty of Law

by John Launchbury

Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

Do you follow a family tradition/rule/ritual that you really have no idea how it started and what purposes it plays? For example, always preparing a traditional meal in a laborious manner?

Does your ecclesia maintain a traditional practice that doesn't really suit the membership, but no-one thinks to question it? For example, having Sunday school before the memorial service, or there other way around, when the opposite would make more sense for your ecclesia?

Does the idea of the law being a truant officer making sure that we get to school help you understand better the role of law in your life? John states that "laws themselves do not save, they help us to be ready to start the process of salvation". What does this look like in your life?

John states: "So we see that sin cannot be defined by dividing actions into good or bad buckets. Rather, sin is about spiritual unhealthiness, especially when expressed in action." and "Sin is hurting ourselves or hurting others". How do these definitions change your view on sin? Do you find these definitions helpful or disconnecting?

What actions and cognitive changes are needed to turn our churches into support groups for spiritually unhealthy people, rather than places where we bring our Sunday persona?