

When You Get Bent out of Shape

Luke 13:10-17 Fifth Sunday of Lent

INTRODUCTION: Old Frank was 'bent out of shape'...

- I. IN OUR TEXT WE MEET SOMEONE 'BENT OUT OF SHAPE' BY SUFFERING (vv. 10-13)
 - A. Dr. Luke tells us this woman was "bent" physically & spiritually.
 - B. Jesus touches this dear woman heals her & she stands up erect!
 - C. Her life had been filled with "I can't's"...
 - D. Have you seen *circus elephants* bound to small wooden stakes?
 - E. Jesus frees <u>us from what binds us & "bends us out of shape" and changes our *I can't's* to *I cans!* (Matthew 11:28)</u>

II. IN OUR TEXT WE MEET ANOTHER PERSON 'BENT OUT OF SHAPE' BY RELIGIOUS RULES (vv.14-16)

- A. He was the leader of the synagogue "bent out of shape" by legalism.
- B. He missed the joy of this woman's healing due to the bitterness of legalism.
- C. Jesus confronts this joyless legalism (vv. 14-16).
- D. Have you heard about the *cold water committee* in every church??
- E. Jesus has come to free us from the unhappiness of legalism (v.17; John 8:32)

CONCLUSION: The old nursery rhyme – *Humpty Dumpty* (version 1 & version 2)

There is no longer any reason to be bent out of shape!