

Commentary on the Gospel for Tue, Feb 7th 2012

Briefly, the word corban or korban means “gift.” Anything brought to the Temple treasury was said to be corban and could never again be put to secular use. Now, a rebellious son might say to his parents, “Any benefit or enjoyment you might have by me, I now declare corban!” It meant that he was no longer bound to help or support them in any way! “You set aside God’s commandment (to help and honor your parents,” Jesus said, “in order to implant your tradition (corban).” For all their talk against God, religious lawyers cannot cope well with God. God seems too concerned with individuals, and is therefore unpredictable. Love just muddies the field for lawyers.

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