

Commentary on the Gospel for Fri, Jun 8th 2012

“Many people came to Jesus and listened to him gladly.” That tells us that people were fed up with the quibbling way of arguing that the scribes had and they enjoyed seeing them being beaten at their own game. The scribes knew how to lean on people. “Woe to you, lawyers (scribes),” he said. “for you load unbearable burdens on people, while you yourselves do not move a finger to help them” (Lk 11:46). It was a warning for everyone who throws the law at others. There is a Spanish proverb: “A peasant between two lawyers is like a fish between two cats.” But one has to add: there are lawyers who use the law to defend people, and there are many non-lawyers who use it to oppress them.

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