

## John 5:39

*You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

If you take the word “**text**” out of “**context**” you are only left with a “**con.**” Pastor Danny Fusco

People try to quote God’s word and sometimes they quote it out of context. Or other times they quote what’s not in God’s word at all.

Example, some will say, and even say it thinking that they are quoting from the bible, things like, “*The bible says that God helps those who help themselves.*” Which is nowhere in scripture, no matter what translation you read from. Because if we could help ourselves, why would we need God? But we can’t help ourselves, therefore God helps those who can’t help themselves, which is all of us. Even Jesus said.

† *Mark 2:17 (NLT2) When Jesus heard this, he told them, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.”*

Or another way to look at this is to say that Jesus did not come to call those who think they don’t need any help, but those who know they need help from God.

Another common, misquoted verse that is in the bible, which is usually misquoted by those who are not believers, or those believers who are in a backslidden state say, “*Judge not lest you be judged*” But if we look in the bible, the correct quote is:

† *Luke 6:37 “Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”*

Notice how they like to add the word “lest” I suppose they do so because it makes it sound more wise or spiritual? But the reality is they don’t know what the bible really says. And if you think about it, why do they want to quote just the first sentence of this verse, but ignore the other two sentences, especially the last sentence, which says to “*Forgive, and you will be forgiven.*” Once again, it’s because they are taking the “text” out of “context” and they themselves are the ones being conned.

Also by throwing this verse at someone, they are doing what they say others should not be doing, and in fact they are condemning them for doing it, not realizing they too are guilty of not

following God's word, which says in the same portion of scripture they are misquoting from, "***Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned.***"

I also find it kind of funny that those who try and quote this verse, or any other portion of the bible, do not even read the bible, but even worse, they don't even believe the bible, and what's way worse is that they don't even believe in God or Jesus who the bible is all about. So why are they quoting from something they don't even believe in?

Yet that is just what those who misquote scripture do, they will take a passage of scripture out of its context to make it say what they want it to say. But to have true insight into God's word, we need to have 20-20 spiritual vision for the word of God, which is reading 20 verses before and 20 verses (or even more) after a portion of scripture to get it into its proper context. Because if we don't, we can end up being conned or conning others with the word of God, even as a believer.

- † **2 Timothy 3:13 (MSG)** *Unscrupulous con men will continue to exploit the faith. They're as deceived as the people they lead astray. As long as they are out there, things can only get worse.*
- † **Psalm 25:3 (NLT2)** *No one who trusts in you will ever be disgraced, but disgrace comes to those who try to deceive others.*
- † **Matthew 24:24** *For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.*