

also be times when firm hand and strong action is absolutely necessary. And it is *very difficult* to decide which in different cases. And you can err^o greatly in either direction. But when it comes to the final judgment, only God knows the heart. If we deal with either error in the wrong way, we -- it is injurious to the person with whom we deal. We have to use the best judgment we can get and pray God to guide us. But the Lord knows the heart and judges in the end, the ultimate result. Now that was No. 1, The Strict Law, vs. ~~30~~ 30-31. Then

2. The Man Who Gathers Sticks, vs. 32-36. There are ministers who give wonderful sermons which are full of wonderful expositions, and open up the scripture, but they -- it takes a great deal of effort to follow often, and it is always very very helpful to have illustrations. Illustrations are often spoken of as windows, windows that illuminate. You take a truth and present it in the form of an illustration. I heard about a politician some yrs. ago speaking about a matter of tariff loss and the person who was telling me had such great admiration of this man. He said, instead of saying the law is ~~of~~ this and here is this detail and this, he said, let us take the situation of a cabbage grown in a certain country in South America. And this cabbage is brought up and he described the cabbage coming in through the ports and so on. And this man who had heard him was so impressed by the illustration of making it specific, making it vivid, making it drive itself home to people's hearts. And I think that is very important. There are ministers who ^{just} get up and give a series of stories and there is not much purpose to that, and we must avoid that. But for every one like that there are probably three or four who fail to give good illustrations which catch the interest and thought of the people who listen and which takes the point you have in mind and makes it clear and vivid. And here the Lord gave us an example of that. First he gave the law to the people and to us about the presumptuous sin, and then he gave the illustration of it, vs. 31-36 (Reading text, vs. 32-36). Now you notice this was a command given for the specific occasion, this was certainly not a command that everyone that gathered sticks on the sabbath day should be stoned. But this was a case where the command about the sabbath day had been given repeatedly to them. It had been stressed. It had been made