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| 1  Mark: Son of Man As Son of God  Mark 2:13-22  “The Son of God’s Authority Over Tradition  INTRO:  We live in a world where we operate according to what is fair.  -You get out what you put in  -Some Jews even had this theology where if you  were sick or something catastrophic happened to  you, it is because you sinned  -“God only helps those who help themselves”  -“Is Grace fair?” Yes or No  -If yes=hell  -Matthew 20:1-16 parable on fairness  -all paid the same wage  -grace is not fair  And in this section Mark is going to show us the scandalous nature of grace, that the preaching of the cross is stumbling block to Jews | 2  Jesus continues his ministry  -calls Levi the tax collector, also known as Matthew  Tax collectors were hated and despised  -Traitors of Jews  -greedy and extortion  -nothing but a mafia enterprise  -charged tax for Rome but also charged much more to keep for themselves  -if can’t pay, lend money at an exorbitant interest rate  -often companied by thugs/enforcers  -Pharisees made laws that if you touched tax collector’s house you are ceremonially unclean  -a Jew was justified lying to them  -were banned from the synagogue  -classified in category of leper or prostitute  -dregs and scum of society, hated by all  Levi had a heavy heart and a guilt-stricken conscience  -immediately left position to follow Jesus  -never would gain position again, but now he has  riches in heaven  -contrast to rich young ruler who walked away  from Jesus |
| 3  Hymn: “the world behind me, the cross before Me, no turning back, no turning back”  -Just like disciples who left fishing career  Why does God choose worst people to accomplish His purposes?  -Noah was a drunk  -Abraham was a liar and too old  -Jacob was a deceiver and liar  -Moses had a stuttering problem  -Gideon was a coward  -Samson was a womanizer and had a temper  problem  -Rahab was a prostitute  -King David was an adulterer and murderer  -Jonah ran away from God  -Paul was a persecutor of the church  -and the list goes on and on…  -Why all these riffraffs? | 4  1 Corinthians 1:26-31:  **“**For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God. But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that, just as it is written, “Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.”  Apostle John, “disciple whom Jesus loved”=Not boasting but description of humility  -A man of rage/anger Calling down fire from  heaven, he knows he should have been in that fire |
| 5  Furthermore Jesus fellowshipped with tax collectors and sinners! Shocking  -thieves, thugs, scoundrels, enforcers, prostitutes  -outcast of society  -Jesus accepted them socially  -1 Corinthians 5:11 Don’t eat with unrepentant  brother  -not to condone their sin but to save them from it  V. 16 “Why is he eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners?  -Great irony: Pharisees should have been the first  to accept sinners but they are actually trying  prevent people from the kingdom  -They thought they were the closest from the  kingdom but they were farthest from it  -Claim to see, but are blind  -Claim to hear, but are deaf  -“Pharisee”=separate ones  -God is truly separate but he came down to identify  with sinners | 6  Luke 20:46  “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectable greetings in the marketplaces, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets, who devour widows’ houses, and for appearance’s sake offer long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.”  -Pharisees=whitewashed tombs  -Scary image  -We’re not too far off from being a Pharisee  -A bit of Pharisee inside of all of us  -Cliques  -Make our own laws that make us feel good and  that puts down others  -You make preferences law |
| 7  James shows we can even show partiality in the church!  James 2:  “My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of* personal favoritism. For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?”  V. 17 Stinging rebuke:  “It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners  -Simple illustration | 8  -There is no truly righteous person  Romans 3:10-12  “There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one.”  -Problem was Pharisees claimed they could see  John 9:39-41 where Jesus says,  “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.” Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, “We are not blind too, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; butsince you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”  -Luke 15 “ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance |
| 9  Repentance is not a one-time thing  -It’s a continual act for Christians.  -Christians are repenters  -How about you? Do you see yourself as a repenter?  -Not a penitentiary where you repent/pay of your  crimes  -But because we are in a relationship  -Relationship can be strained by sin  -Smeared glasses can’t see clearly  -Fight against sin=sensitive conscience  -Jordan Hooker and his conscience  -Had tender heart like King Josiah  -Don’t you want a conscience like that  -Do you honor the Lord in little things  -Proverbs 15:3  -“The eyes of the Lord are in every place,  watching the evil and the good”  We see the Son of God being in conflict with the Pharisees starting from the paralytic to dining with sinners. Now we see another conflict with the Pharises and their tradition of fasting. | 10  -A little odd that John’s disciples are fasting  -You would think they know better  -John 3:19 wedding analogy John the Baptist  Jewish wedding it would be rude, unacceptable to be fasting  -same thing today, it would be strange to see  someone fasting at a wedding, perhaps insulting  -Although I try to find the nearest hole to hide in  when it comes to the dancing time at weddings, I  definitely enjoy the food and feast at weddings  Fasting, prayer and almsgiving=common piety in Judaism  -Matt. 6:2-6  Fasting only required once in Day of Atonement Lev. 16:29-31  -But for Pharisees it was twice a week every  Mondays and Thursdays |
| 11  The OT does mention other fasts but was voluntary to express people’s grief or sorrow over sin or to focus  on communion with God  One author said it like this:  “They were consumed with self-righteousness; He preached divine grace. They denied they were sinners; He preached repentance from sin. They were proud of their religiosity; He preached humility. They embraced external ceremony and tradition; He preached a transformed heart. They loved the applause of men; He offered the approval of God. They had dead ritual; He offered a dynamic relationship. They promoted a system; He provided salvation.”  To cap off His point of the utter incompatibility of Pharisaism and Jesus’ teachings Jesus, Jesus gives an illustration in verse 21  Read Verse 21 | 12  -New cloth won’t match old cloth  -When washed it will tear both  -New wine will burst old wineskin because fibers are worn out and weak  Pharisees’ tradition and religion completely incompatible with the gospel  -Isaiah 64:6 “dirty rags” literally “menstrual cloths”  -Not NT replacing OT or Law  -Rom. 7:16 Law is righteous and good  -Pharisees should have known  Matthew 15 “invalidated the Word of God because of their traditions”  Matt. 15:7 “You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah  prophesy of you: This people honors me with their  lips, but their heart is far away from me, but in  vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the  precepts of men.” |
| 13  Do Gentiles need to be circumcised? Acts 15:10  “Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our father nor we have been able to bear?”  -If it was hard for Jews, how much more for  Gentiles?  -Pharisees added more on top of that rules,  regulations!  -Pharisees so wicked Matthew 23:13-36 (read)  CONC:  -Romans 11:6 grace would not be grace, if it is by works  -Gal. 5:4 “if you are seeking to be justified by law, you have been severed from Christ, you have fallen from grace  Galatian problem was Jesus/faith+works/circumcision  -People today do that all the time  -Morminism/Catholicism /New Age teaching  -Why? | 14  -Our natural human inclination to exalt ourselves  -We want some of the glory even if God get most  of the glory  Romans 4:4  “Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.”  We saw the contrast between the Tax collector and the Pharisee today in our passage. Who went home justified than the other?  Answer: Read Luke 18:9-14  Unbeliever: If you have not tasted the sweetness of grace you are in the category of Pharisee  -You may not live by as much rules, but you are in  the end trying to earn salvation |
| 15  Proverbs says “Every man’s way is right in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the heart.”  -He has found you guilty and wanting  You must cry out like the tax collector  Jesus said “come to me all you who weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light  Believer: If you have tasted the sweetness of grace, make sure your heart is not far from the Lord like the Pharisee when you honor God with your lips  Keep relying on his grace to grant you joy and peace that comes from knowing Him | 16 |