

# Jesus: The Master Servant

**Mount Calvary Baptist  
Church**

**Bible Study Series**

**Lesson 13 – June 2, 2021**

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# 2021 Bible Study Series

## Theme

**“Jesus – The Master Servant”**

## Bible Book

**The Gospel of Mark**

## Key Verse

**“For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

**(Mark 10:45, NLT)**



# 2021 Bible Study Series

## Study Aim(s)

To discover how the Gospel of Mark shares with us the true character of Jesus Christ as “**Master Servant**” through His life, His love, and His ministry. We will see how Jesus provides the ultimate model for those longing to actively serve others while serving God.



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Let's Recap

- Last week we witnessed the Growing Opposition To The Servant from three groups:
  - His homies – Home Folk (Mark 6:1-6)
  - His haters – Enemies (Mark 6:7-29)
  - His hangers-on(ers) - Disciples – (Mark 6:30-56)
- The home folk questioned his pedigree and education
- The enemies particularly Herod Antipas, suffered a crisis of conscience
- His disciples had a crisis of confidence



# **Jesus: The Master Servant**

## **This Month's Focus**

- **Will be on the “The Three Ministries of The Servant-Teacher**
  - **His ministry to the Jews (Mark 7:1-23)**
  - **His ministry to the Gentiles (Mark 7:24- 8:9)**
  - **His ministry to the Disciples (8:10-26)**

**Let's Get Started!**



# Jesus: The Servant-Teacher

A photograph of a wooden mallet, a nail, and a crown of thorns on a sandy surface. The mallet is on the left, the nail is in the center, and the crown of thorns is on the right. The background is a bright, hazy sky.

**JESUS**  
the servant king

***“Teaching The Jews”***  
**(Mark 7:1-23)**



# **The Servant-Teacher**

## **Tonight's Lesson Aim(s)**

- **Why would Jewish leadership feel compelled to defend their ceremonial washings?**
- **How were they honoring their traditions above God's Word?**
- **What are some ways believers and leaders do this in today's church?**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **Teaching the Jews**

**There are four stages in this drama. The Jewish religious leaders were now openly hostile toward Jesus and His ministry. It was not unusual for them to follow Him from place to place simply to watch for something to criticize. The first stage we'll call;**

- The Accusation (vs 1-5)**





# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Accusation (vs 1-5)**

- **The disciples failed to practice the Jewish ceremonial washing**
  - **Washings were common throughout the ancient cultures and among various Jewish communities**
  - **These washing had nothing to do with personal hygiene nor were they commanded in the law**
  - **They were part of the tradition given by the scribes and Pharisees (Matt 23:4)**



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## **The Accusation (vs 1-5)**

- **Because Jesus had already violated their Sabbath traditions they were eager to accuse Him when they saw the disciples eat with “defiled hands”**
  - **Why would such a trivial matter upset these religious leaders?**
  - **Why would Jewish leadership feel compelled to defend their ceremonial washings?**



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## **The Accusation (vs 1-5)**

- **The Jews called the traditions “the fence of the law.”**
  - It was not the law that protected the tradition it was the tradition that protected the law
  - More importantly when they practice these washings they declared that they were special – others were unclean
- **They had forgotten the Basic Storyline of Scripture:**
  - God made everything (Gen 1-2)
  - Man rebelled and brought about the present human condition (Gen 3:1-24)
  - God promised a savior (Gen 3:15)
  - God prepared for the coming savior by focusing his revelatory and saving work on the descendants of Abraham (Gen 12:3) and



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## The Accusation (vs 1-5)

- In the book of Isaiah He spoke prophetically to the coming savior.

***“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth”*** (Isa 49:6)



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## The Accusation (vs 1-5)

- The Traditions had begun as a reminder that they were God's elect people had degenerated into an empty ritual had kept them separated and resulted in pride and religious isolation
- These washings not only indicated a wrong attitude towards people, but they conveyed the wrong idea of the nature of sin and personal holiness
  - Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount “Blessed are
    - The poor in spirit
    - They that mourn
    - The meek
    - They that hunger and thirst
    - The merciful
    - The peacemakers
    - They which are persecuted
- True holiness is a matter of inward affection and attitude, not outward actions and associations



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Accusation (vs 1-5)**

- **Jesus taught that you can obey the law externally and still break the law in your heart**

### **Summary:**

**The conflict was not only between God's truth and man's tradition, but also between two divergent views of sin and holiness. This was no incidental skirmish; it got to the very heart of true spiritual faith.**

**All traditions are not bad, some are necessary to bind generations. However, all traditions should be evaluated and reevaluated - but none should must take the place of the truth of God's word.**





# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Condemnation (vs 6-13)**

- **As Jesus defended His disciples and exposed the hypocrisy of their accusers the first thing He did was to quote Isaiah and the law of Moses**
  - **And the Lord said: “Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, (Isa 29:13)**
  - **“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. (Ex 20:12)**
  - **Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death. (Ex 21:17)**
  - **For anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death; he has cursed his father or his mother; his blood is upon him.**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Condemnation (vs 6-13)**

- **In defending their traditions, the Pharisees eroded their own character and also the character of Word of God.**
  - **They exposed themselves as playactors – hypocrites – their worship was practiced in vain**
  - **True worship come from the heart**
  - **It must be directed by God's truth and not man's personal ideas**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Condemnation (vs 6-13)**

- **They also were destroying the influence and authority of the Word of God' they claimed to be defending. Watch the progression:**
  - **They taught their doctrines as God's Word (Mark 7:7)**
  - **They laid aside God's Word (Mark 7:8)**
  - **They rejected God's Word (Mark 7:9)**
  - **Finally God's Word is robbed of its power (Mark 7:13)**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Condemnation (vs 6-13)**

- **No matter what they look like – how devout their appearance – their heart was far from God**

### **Historical Note:**

**The record reveals that the Jewish religious leaders came to honor their traditions far above the Word of God. Rabbi Eleazer said, “He who expounds the scriptures in opposition to the tradition has no share in the world to come.”**

**The Mishnah, a collection of Jewish traditions in the Talmud, records, “It is greater offense to teach anything contrary to the voice of the Rabbis than to contradict Scripture itself.”**



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## The Condemnation (vs 6-13)

- **After Jesus exposed their hypocrisy, He turned to the law of Moses and indicted them for breaking the fifth commandment**
  - **They chose to dedicate their wealth to God – Corban – gift or offering**
  - **Their claim was that it could only be used for “spiritual purposes”**
  - **They claimed to love God, but had no love for their parents**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

## **The Declaration (vs 14-16)**

- **When Jesus announced that the source of holy living is found within, He was declaring null and void the entire Mosaic system of “clean and unclean” foods**
  - **The crowd did not understand but His enemies did**
  - **The enemies realized that Jesus was breaking down one of the walls that separated the Jews from the Gentiles**
  - **The law itself was not set aside until after the cross**





# Jesus: The Servant-Teacher

## The Declaration (vs 14-16)

- The principle Jesus announced had been true throughout the ages. Facts, people, contexts may change but principles are fundamental – they don't change

For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, (Ephesians 2:14-15)

by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. (Colossians 2:14)



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## **The Declaration (vs 14-16)**

### **Summary:**

**In every period of history, true holiness has always been a matter of the heart, a right relationship with God by faith. Ceremonial purity was a matter of external obedience to a law as evidence of that faith. Moses made it clear in Deuteronomy that God wanted love and obedience to come from the heart**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5; 10:12; 30:6, 20**



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## **The Lords Explanation (vs 17-23)**

- **The Lord gave His explanation privately to His disciples when they asked the meaning of the parable**
  - **It may seem simple to us but we are on the other side of that event**
  - **It is not easy to change traditions**
  - **It took Peter years to give up the Kosher life (Acts 10:14)**



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## The Lords Explanation (vs 17-23)

- **The Jewish dietary laws were given to teach His chosen people to discern between what was clean and what was unclean**
  - **Where there any reasons involved? Probably**
  - **They were more concerned with ceremonial defilement than spiritual holiness**
  - **Food ends up in the stomach, but sin begins in the heart.**
  - **Food we eat is digested and the waste evacuated, but sin remains and it produces defilement and death**



# Jesus: The Servant-Teacher

## Compare and Contrast

Man's traditions	God's truth
Outward forms – bondage	Inward faith - liberty
Trifling rules	Fundamental principles
Outward piety	True inward holiness
Neglect, replace the Word	Exalts the Word of God

- **This dramatic lesson on truth vs. tradition only irritated the Jewish religious leaders more and made them want to silence Jesus.**



# **Jesus: The Servant-Teacher**

**Questions, Answers  
and/or Comments**



**Thank You!**

**May God Continue To Shower You With His  
Abundant Blessings!**

**Meet us here next week for:  
Session 14 –  
“His Ministry to the Gentiles”  
(Mark 7:24- 8:9)**

