



**For A Really Messed Up World**

**The Gospel of Mark**

February 17, 2008

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**Religion Will Kill Your Christianity**

**Mark 2:1-3:6**

Message # 4

**M E S S A G E   N O T E S**

**Religious “Identity Markers”**

**A Collage of Jesus’ Confrontations with the Religious Establishment**

**Snapshot #1 (2:1-12)**

Identity Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus Christ

**Snapshot #2 (2:13-17)**

Identity Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

**Snapshot #3 (2:18-22)**

Identity Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

**Snapshot #4 (2:23-28)**

Identity Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

**Snapshot #5 (3:1-6)**

Identity Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

***Who do we reach? (Isolation or Insulation)***

*13 Then He went out again by the sea; and all the multitude came to Him, and He taught them. 14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. 15 Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi's house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him. 16 And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, "How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?" 17 When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners, to repentance." Mark 2:13-17*

*15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. John 17:15-18 NKJV*

## **Why do we do the things we do? (Tradition or Purpose)**

18 The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were fasting. Then they came and said to Him, "Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" 19 And Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. 20 But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days. 21 No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. 22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins. Mark 2:18-22 NKJV

...You have made the word of God of no effect by your traditions. Matthew 15:6 NKJV

## **What is Christianity all about? (Keeping Rules or Loving People)**

1 And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand. 2 So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. 3 And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward." 4 Then He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they kept silent. 5 And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other. 6 Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him. Mark 3:1-6 NKJV

## Differences between Religion and Real Christianity

1. Religion: "If I do \_\_\_\_\_, then God will love me."

Real Christianity: "God \_\_\_\_\_; and He demonstrated it on the \_\_\_\_\_"

2. Religion: "The world is filled with 2 kinds of people – the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_. The "good" are the ones who are like me.

Real Christianity: "There are two kinds of people in the world: the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, because ALL people are "bad."

3. Religion never leads to \_\_\_\_\_. It leads to \_\_\_\_\_ ("I do it") or \_\_\_\_\_ ("I can't do it")

Real Christianity offers joy in \_\_\_\_\_