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Mark Chapter 7 – Mark is an action Gospel.

Jesus: God's servant doing God's will. Jesus is a man of action.

Let review: at the end of Chapter 6: Jesus and Disciples now at the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Herod Captures and executes John the Baptist, Jesus Feeds of the 5000.

Let talk about Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians and Scribes:

Pharisees: They rose to defend the Jewish way of Life. Legalist, They believed in the Old Testament, they were Nationalists. Jesus was a threat to them. What do you do with a threat? Eliminate!

Sadducees: Wealthy, socially minded, get rid of tradition, anti-spiritual – (Didn't believe in the resurrection Matt. 22:23). Opposed to the Pharisees.

Herodians: Political party purpose to keep the Herod's on the throne. Power at this time was through Rome.

Scribes: Professional expounders of the Law. Hairsplitters. More concerned about the letter of the Law than the Spirit of the Law.

Mark 7:1 (NASB) And the Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered together around Him (Jesus) when they had come from Jerusalem,

Jesus was becoming famous, wanted to check (spy) this out in Galilee. Came to try to capture him in word or deed, find fault. Confrontation coming from enemies. No middle ground – Either Trust Jesus or reject him.

V2-4 and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with impure hands, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, [thus] observing the traditions of the elders; and [when they come] from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.

Observing the traditions of Elders Cleanliness. Ritualistic. Tradition mentioned 5 times. Good and bad traditions.

Ceremonial-65 pages of regulations on hand washing.

I am thankful for the traditions of the Church: baptism, feet washing, communion, baby dedication, many more.

Accusation #1

Jesus knew the Pharisees were there, he didn't tell his disciples to watch out, wash up? Hey guys watch out now, disciples were all Jews. Why because they rejected that tradition – Jesus going to use it as an opportunity to teach.

V5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?" **Not accusing Jesus but his disciples. Why did they not accuse Jesus – they are tired of being humiliated by Jesus with his answer. Will do the same with this question to the disciples.**

V6-7 And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you Hypocrites (missing in notes), as it is written, 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. (Isaiah 29:13)

Hypocrites, (Jesus called it the way he sees it)

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Hypocrites = Actor, stage player

The heart condition is everything to God. He knows your heart. If your heart is not right but willing, he can change it! Church is a heart activity, not just a ritual. Purpose to make Church a heart activity. (Cry out).

V7 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'

Worship in vain! Like Worshiping an idol? Nothing happening. Doctrine = set of beliefs held and taught. We need to be careful that we teach a correct doctrine. Therefore, there is a responsibility with teaching:

James 3:1 Let not many [of you] become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we shall incur a stricter judgment.

I tell God - I did not volunteer.

Many church denominations have moved from the Word of God to man's tradition. One of the reasons you should bring your bible to church. (Is what he said true?)

V8-9 "Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." He was also saying to them, "You nicely set aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition. (That's why he is the Righteous Judge)

Example:

V10 "For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, LET HIM BE PUT TO DEATH';

V11-13 but you say, (substitute by tradition) 'If a man says to his father or his mother, anything of mine you might have been helped

by is Corban (that is to say, given to God),' you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or [his] mother; thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and **you do many things such as that.**"

Not just this example – many more OUCH!

Okay guys, here is the example. Question - Were they really going to give the support to God, instead of their parents? Just verbiage.

Corban: It means a gift or offering consecrated to God. Used only once in the New Testament.

V14-16 And after He called the multitude to Him again, He [began] saying to them, "Listen to Me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside the man which going into him can defile him; but the things which proceed out of the man are what defile the man. "If any man has ears to hear, let him hear."

Pronouncing all food clean. Listing of food edible: Leviticus chapter 11, the entire chapter. Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, Chp 11:V2 'These are the creatures which you may eat from all the animals that are on the earth.

V17 And when leaving the multitude, He had entered the house, His disciples questioned Him about the parable.

Not a parable – which is hidden.

Jesus gives farther clarification of this:

V18-19 And He *said to them, "Are you so lacking in understanding also? Do you not understand that whatever goes into the man from outside cannot defile him; because it does not go into his heart, but into his stomach, and is eliminated? Thus He declared all foods clean.

Opps crunch! Are we seeking some frustration of Jesus with his disciples?

V20-22 And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed) the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

Make a checklist for yourself: Do you have evil thoughts, Fornicate, thief (time at work), murders (in your heart), adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

"All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

(Pastor's testimony) Mess up: Ask forgiveness, make amends if needed, rebuke you through or action, put it out of your mind and move ahead.

What an evil list! Before I got saved and after for a period, I did many of these. What to get that stuff out of you? I give you my heart, I give you my soul, change my heart and soul. Soul = Mind, Will and Emotions. The Holy Spirit is willing and able to change these things, we are new creators with the new birth.

V24 And from there He arose and went away to the region of Tyre. **Tyre: City on the Mediterranean Sea, North of Israel. Two parts, inland and an Island. Attack the inland city, residents move to the Island. Finally captured by Alexander the Great. He destroyed the inland city and threw their rocks into the ocean creating a passage to the island. Great trading city know for a purple cloth.**

And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know [of it;] yet He could not escape notice.

Righteous living will not escape notice by others. Faithfulness will not escape notice. Hard work will not escape. Changes in your relationship with Jesus (drawing nearer or moving farther away) will not escape notice.

V25-27 But after hearing of Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, immediately came and fell at His feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of the Syrophoenician race. And she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And He was saying to her, "Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

Woman was Greek

Mathew 15:24 But He (Jesus) answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Talk about focus. Who was to preach the Gospel to the rest of the World? - his disciples/us.

V28-30 But she answered and *said to Him, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children's crumbs." And He said to her, "Because of this answer go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter." And going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, the demon having departed.

V31-32 And again He went out from the region of Tyre, and came through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of Decapolis. And they *brought to Him one who was deaf and spoke with difficulty, and they *entreated Him to lay His hand upon him.

Decapolis (Ten cities)

Deaf and dumb, no sickness is too difficult for our savior to heal.

V33 And He took him aside from the multitude by himself, and put His fingers into his ears, and after spitting, He touched his tongue with the saliva; **(Aides to Faith or Faith aides)**

V34-37 and looking up to heaven with a deep sigh, He *said to him, "Ephphatha!" that is, "Be opened!" And his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was removed, and he began speaking plainly. And He gave them orders not to tell anyone; but the more

He ordered them, the more widely they continued to proclaim it. And they were utterly astonished, saying, "He has done all things well; He makes even the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak."

**Jesus does all things well! He does today, all things well.
Thank you Jesus!**

Summary Chapter 7: Mark a action Gospel

1. Rebukes the Pharisees
2. Heals daughter with an unclean spirit
3. Heals deaf and dumb man

Isn't wonderful, wonderful that our Savior deals with the masses, thousands upon thousands but takes a personal interest in all of us as he did for the deaf man and the sick girl. Our God cares for us as a loving Father. Each of us are important to Jesus. Praise God!
Thank you Jesus!