THE GOSPEL OF MARK

# THE IMPACT OF THE MASTER TEACHER

FOLLOWING JESUS

# Mark 2:13-22 Overview

- ❑ 2:13-17 Socializing with sinners
- ❑ 2:18-20 Feast or Fast, its all about Jesus
- ❑ 2:19-22 Goodbye to the old -- Hello to the new

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# Mark 2:13-17: Socializing with sinners

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Mark 2:13-17 “And He went out again by the seashore ; and all the multitude were coming to Him, and He was teaching them. 14 And as He passed by, He saw Levi the *son* of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office , and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he rose and followed Him. 15 And it came about that He was reclining *at the table* in his house , and many tax-gatherers and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples ; for there were many of them, and they were following Him. 16 And when the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax-gatherers , they *began* saying to His disciples , "Why is He eating and drinking with tax-gatherers and sinners ?" 17 And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "*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.””

# Mark 2:13-17 Summary

- ❑ Parallel passage Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 5:27-31
- ❑Jesus calls Levi the tax collector to be a disciple
- ❑Levi leaves all and follows Him
- ❑Jesus dines with Levi and other tax collectors
- ❑ The Pharisees and their scribes murmured against Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners
- ❑ Jesus replied that His mission is as a Physician to the spiritually sick in order to call them to repentance

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# Mark 2:13-17 Parts to the story

- ❑ Tax-collectors and sinners
- ❑ Scribes of the Pharisees
- ❑ Tradition of the elders
- ❑ Physician to the spiritually sick

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# Mark 2:13-17 Tax Collectors and sinners

- **Tax collectors**
  - **Mishna:** "If taxgatherers entered a house all that is within it becomes unclean;"
- **Sinners**
  - **A term used by some Jewish speakers, such as the Pharisees or the scribes, to describe people who followed a way of life that was inconsistent with what they considered God's standards**

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# Mark 2:13-17 Pharisees

- A sect of Judaism that originated around 134 BC
- The Pharisees had a strict policy of separatism from everything which might convey moral or ceremonial impurity.
- The Pharisees sought to have the Torah interpreted and applied as the rule of life for the Jewish society as a whole.
- Pharisees developed a body of interpretation and application of the law known as the Oral Law
- Their penchant for practical detail resulted in their going beyond the Scripture

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# Mark 2:13-17 Tradition of the elders

- Put in written form in the Mishna around 200 AD
- Teachings derived from scribal interpretations of the law that were considered as authoritative as the law itself.
- Was intended to be a fence around the law
- It is estimated that two-thirds of the rabbinic traditions concern ritual purity

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# Mark 2:13-17 Those who are sick need a physician

- Jesus teaches that His Messianic/Kingdom ministry is the work of a physician to the spiritually sick
- "Jesus demonstrated an offensive holiness that is not threatened or damaged by impurity"
- Jesus showed that the purity of the kingdom is not in danger from anything outside the individual. Purity of the kingdom is an issue of the heart (cf. Mark 7:15)

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# Mark 2:13-17 IMPACT

- The scribes and Pharisees murmur against Jesus' outreach to sinners
- A sinner is saved
  - "Christ did something that years of the synagogue's discipline and of social ostracism had been unable to achieve" (Gooding 110)

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# Mark 2:13-17 IMPACT on me

- Striving for holiness that is on the offensive
- Challenged to reach out to the lost

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# Mark 2:18-20 Feast or Fast, its all about Jesus

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Mark 2:18-20 “And John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" 19 And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom is with them, the attendants of the bridegroom do not fast, do they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 "But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.”

# Mark 2:18-20 Summary

- Parallel passages Matthew 9:14-15; Luke 5:33-35;
- John the Baptist's disciples and the Pharisees question why Jesus' disciples do not fast like they do
- Jesus claims that as long as He is in the midst that His disciples should be joyful and not expressing sorrow by fasting

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# Mark 2:18-20 Fasting

- Pharisees fasted twice a week (Luke 18:13)
- Fasting is relevant in time of sorrow
- Fasting is incompatible with times of blessing

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# Mark 2:18-20 IMPACT on ME

- Jesus teaches that in the Kingdom of God He is the focal point of a spiritual exercise such as fasting
- Jesus is to be the reason for all that we do religiously
  - "Christ's disciples' lives are ordered not so much by rule and regulation as by the practical realities of a living relationship with a living Lord.", (Gooding 111)

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# Mark 2:21-22
# Goodbye to the old – Hello to the new

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Mark 2:21-22 “No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. 22 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and the skins *as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.*”


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# Mark 2:21-22 Summary

- Parallel passages Matthew 9:16-17; Luke 5:36-39;
- Jesus came with a new wine of the Kingdom of God
- Some in Israel preferred their current religion

# Mark 2:21-22 IMPACT on ME

- Jesus teaches that the Kingdom of God is a transformation not a reformation
- "The old garment must be discarded and the new assumed in its place." (Gooding 112)

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