



desert breeze community church

Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

June 21, 2009

Jesusology

Mark 7:1-13

“Final Authority”

We have been studying the life of Jesus in the Book of Mark. In our text we see that Jesus’ view of Scripture was authoritative. It was His final authority.

“The authority of Scripture means that all the words in Scripture are God’s words in such a way that to disbelieve or disobey any word of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God.” (Systematic Theology – Grudem page 73)

THE BIBLE IS MY FINAL AUTHORITY:

Mark 7:1-13

WHY SHOULD IT BE?

- 1) To give final authority to anything other than the Bible is failure to worship God. vv6-8 (Ps. 1:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- 2) Jesus based all of His life on the Scripture.
 - ✓ **Actions** – Luke 4:16-21 Jesus started His ministry by quoting this promise from the O.T. book of Isaiah 61:1-2 saying that he was the fulfillment of it. Matt. 26:54 In Gethsemane “But how then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled...” Luke 24:44
 - ✓ **Feelings** – Matt. 27:46 quoting Ps. 22:1 “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.” Luke 22:37 quoting Isa. 53:12 “And He was numbered with the transgressors.”
 - ✓ **Thoughts** – Matt. 4:1-11 “It is written...” Matt. 5:17-20 He came to fulfill the law.
 - ✓ **Treasure** – Jesus filled His heart with the beauty and value of His Father. Matt. 6:21; John 17:1-5.
- 3) To follow Jesus means I will base all of my life on Scripture. (John 8:31-32)

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Jesus criticizes the traditions of the Religious leaders in this text. They had made their interpretation and application of the law as authoritative as the law itself. Their lists of detailed interpretations and applications not only distracted from but sometimes even contradicted the actual law. Jesus gives two examples: Ritual washing and Corban.

- 1) Its about heart allegiance, not formal **compliance**. V6 “Hypocrites...this people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.”
- 2) Its instruction is about function (substance), not **form (style)**. V8 “You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”
- 3) In Essentials unity, in **Non-essentials liberty**, but **in all things love**. V9 “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandments of God in order to establish your tradition.” (1 Cor. 8; Rom. 14:1-15:13)
- 4) The righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled **in me, not by me**. (Rom. 8:1-4; 1 John 5:3-5)
- 5) It is primarily about Jesus (what He has done), not me (what I must do). (John 5:39-40; Luke 24:25-27)

Love Constraining to Obedience
(William Cowper)

”To see the Law by Christ fulfilled,
To hear His pardoning voice,
Changes a slave into a child
And duty into choice.”

June 28	“Inside Out Change”	Mark 7:14-23
July 5	“Humble Confidence”	Mark 7:24-37
July 12	“Connecting the Dots”	Mark 8:1-21
July 19	“Spiritual Blindness”	Mark 8:22-9:1



Growing

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1) How does the average American define truth and what is their truth source? Do you think most people are aware of the fact that they are living their life and making decisions that will affect their life for time and eternity based on what they think is true?

2) Read Mark 7:1-13. What were the religious leaders accusing Jesus' disciples of? How would you describe Jesus' attitude in response? What are some of His arguments against what they are saying?

3) Define what it means that Scripture is our final authority? Why is giving final authority to anything other than the Bible failure to worship God (vv6-8)? Jesus based all of His life on Scripture, so what does it mean to follow Him? (John 8:31-32)

4) What's the difference between heart allegiance, and formal compliance to scripture (v6)? What's the difference between substance and style when it comes to a Sunday morning worship service? Which one is more important?

5) What are essentials and non-essentials of the Christian faith? Why is it important to know the difference? What does it mean that the righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled in us, not by us? Who is the Scripture primarily about? Pray Psalm 1:1-3.