

LESSON 59

1. Why were the Pharisees and the teachers of the law angry with Jesus' disciples?

-Because Jesus' disciples did not keep the traditions of the elders.

2. What were the traditions of the elders?

-They were laws that the Pharisees had made which they said the people must keep in order to be accepted by God.

3. Does God accept us according to the traditions we keep?

-No.

4. Will keeping traditions make our hearts clean?

-No.

5. Jesus called the Pharisees hypocrites. What is a hypocrite?

-A hypocrite is someone whose words and deeds are not the same, but totally different.

6. What did the prophet Isaiah say about these people?

-The prophet Isaiah said that these people say with their lips that they believe in God, but that their hearts are far from God.

7. Why would God not accept the worship of the Pharisees?

-Because their worship was only from their lips, and not from their hearts.

8. Does God want people to add their traditions to His Book, the Bible?

-No.

-We must never add to or take anything away from what God has said in the Bible.

9. Why are people not made unclean by unclean hands or by unclean food?

-Because unclean hands and unclean food do not touch the heart.

10. Does what we eat or do not eat make us acceptable to God?

-No.

11. Does what we wear or do not wear make us acceptable to God?

-No.

12. What did Jesus say makes a man unclean?

-Jesus said that what is on the inside is that which makes a man unclean.

13. What are the evils that are inside of every one of our hearts?

-Evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance, and folly.

14. In the parable that Jesus told, who were the two people who went to the temple to pray?

-One was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector.

15. Why did God reject the Pharisee?

-Because the Pharisee did not believe that he had an unclean heart.

-Because the Pharisee did not believe that he had sinned against God.

16. Why did God accept the tax collector?

-Because the tax collector knew that he had an unclean heart.

-Because the tax collector knew that he had sinned against God.

-Because the tax collector called on God to save him.

-One day, Jesus asked His disciples a question.

Let's read Mark 8:27-28

27-Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28-They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

-What was the question that Jesus asked His disciples?

-“Who do people say I am?”

-What did the disciples reply?

-Some of the people thought that Jesus was John the Baptist.

-Some of the people thought that Jesus was Elijah.

-Some of the people thought that Jesus was one of the prophets who had come back to life.

-Why did the people think that Jesus was John the Baptist?

-Because King Herod had killed John the Baptist, some people thought that Jesus was John the Baptist who had come back to life.

-Was Jesus John the Baptist?

-No.

-Why did the people think that Jesus was Elijah?

-Who was Elijah?

-Elijah was a prophet of God who had not died, but had been taken to heaven by God.

-Was Jesus Elijah?

-No.

-Why did people think that Jesus was one of the prophets who had come back to life?

-Because the prophets were always speaking of God and calling the people to repent.

-Was Jesus one of the prophets who had come back to life?

-No.

-What question did Jesus next ask His disciples?

Let's read Mark 8:29

29-"But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

-What did Jesus next ask His disciples?

-"Who do you say I am?"

-What did Peter answer?

-“You are the Christ.”

-Peter knew that Jesus was the Christ who God had promised to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

-Peter knew that Jesus was the Christ who God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

-Peter knew that Jesus was the Christ, God the Savior.

-Even though Jesus had told the Jews many times, many Jews did not believe that Jesus was God the Savior.

-Even though Jesus had performed many miracles before the Jews, many Jews did not believe that Jesus was God the Savior.

-If we do not believe that Jesus is God the Savior, can we be saved?

-No.

-What did Jesus next say to His disciples?

Let's read Mark 8:30

30-Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

-Why did Jesus tell the disciples not to tell anyone about Him?

-Jesus did not want the people to believe because of someone else.

-Jesus wanted the people to believe from their own hearts.

-If we believe in Jesus, then this belief must come from our own hearts.

-We cannot believe in Jesus from someone else.

-After this, Jesus then began to teach the disciples about that which was coming.

Let's read Mark 8:31

31-Jesus then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.

-What did Jesus teach His disciples about that which was coming?

-That the leaders of the people would kill Jesus, but that He would rise from the dead after three days.

-How did Jesus know what was coming?

-Because Jesus is God and knows everything.

-There is nothing that Jesus does not know.

-Jesus knew that the leaders of the people would kill Him.

-Jesus also knew that He must die.

-But Jesus also knew that He would rise from the dead after three days.

-Do you remember how many days and nights Jonah was in the belly of the big fish?

-Three days and three nights.

-Just as Jonah was in the belly of the big fish three days and three nights, Jesus also would be in the belly of the earth three days and three nights.

-Just as God brought Jonah back to life after three days and three nights, God would also bring Jesus back to life after three days and three nights.

-After this, Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him up a high mountain.

Let's read Mark 9:2-3

2-After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.

3-His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them.

-What happened to Jesus on the mountain?

-Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John.

-What does it mean that Jesus was transfigured?

-It means that God who was on the inside of Jesus shined out to the outside.

-Even though Jesus had a human body on the outside, He was God on the inside.

-Do you remember the tent that Moses and the Israelites built in the desert?

-On the outside of the tent were animal skins, but on the inside was the glory of God.

-When people looked at Jesus, they just saw a man on the outside.

-But on the inside, Jesus was God.

-Jesus was fully God and fully man.

-Suddenly, there appeared two men next to Jesus.

Let's read Mark 9:4

4-And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

-Who was Elijah?

-Elijah was a prophet of God who had lived on the earth before Jesus was born.

-Many years ago, before Elijah died, God had taken him to heaven.

-Who was Moses?

-Moses was the one who had led the Israelites out of Egypt.

-Many years ago, Moses had died, and God had taken Moses' to heaven.

-Because Elijah and Moses believed in God, they had been living in heaven with God for many years.

-How did Elijah and Moses return to earth?

-God the Father sent Elijah and Moses down from heaven to talk with Jesus.

-Why did God want Elijah and Moses to talk with Jesus?

-God wanted Elijah and Moses to encourage Jesus because of Jesus' coming death.

-What happened next?

Let's read Mark 9:5-8

5-Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

6-(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

7-Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to Him!"

8-Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

-To whom did the voice which came from the cloud belong?

-God the Father.

-What did God the Father say to the disciples?

-“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to Him!”

-What did God the Father mean?

-God the Father meant that Jesus was truly God the Savior, whom He loved very much.

-Because Jesus was God the Savior, God wanted the disciples to listen to Jesus.

-Today, does God speak to us from heaven?

-No.

-Why not?

-Because all that God wants to say to us has been written in His Book, the Bible.

-God wants us to listen to Jesus and His Words that are written in God’s Book, the Bible.