

## **Recap of 4/30/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 2:23-27):**

1. *In Mark 2:23-3:6 Jesus comes into conflict with the Pharisees over their abuse of the Sabbath Law. In addition, they were using it to trap Jesus. The Sabbath controversy leads to the greater issue of the Christians relationship to the Mosaic Law; issues of Law and Grace.*
2. *Five characteristics of the Pharisees:*
  - a) *self-sufficiency, which kept them from seeing their need for salvation.*
  - b) *they lacked mercy and compassion—they were more committed to their tradition and ritual than in people and their needs.*
  - c) *they lacked love.*
  - d) *they had contempt for people not like them.*
  - e) *they were self-righteous—they did not see their own failures.*
3. *The New Testament teaching about the Law: (Source: C.I. Scofield)*
  - a) *the Law was weak and useless to permanently deal with sin and death. Hebrews 7:17-18.*
  - b) *the Law was passing away, a shadow not the reality. Hebrews 8:13; 10:1.*
  - c) *the Law could not justify. Galatians 2:15,16.*
  - d) *the Law could only show us our need and lead us to Christ to meet that need. Galatians 3:24,25.*
  - e) *the Law could not save and cannot sanctify. Galatians 4:9-11. It is not a means of grace or of currying God's favor. Galatians 3:1-3.*
  - f) *the Church is not under the Law. Acts 15.*
  - g) *To seek to follow the Law at any point is to obligate ourselves to follow it completely. Galatians 5:1-3; James 2:8-11.*
4. *The danger of mixing Law and grace:*
  - a) *We become legalistic*
  - b) *We hold ourselves and others to a standard we cannot keep.*
  - c) *Joy and spontaneity are suppressed.*
  - d) *We become attached to rules, tradition, and ritual of our own making and leave behind mercy.*
  - e) *Our priorities become confused. Keeping and protecting tradition become more important than the needs of people.*