

Not Why But Who: Mark 2:13-28

Sunday, February 25, 2024
Covenant Church
Pastor Zack Phillips

Mark 2:13-28

¹³ Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them.

¹⁴ As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁵ And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶ When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸ Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁹ Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. ²⁰ The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

²¹ "No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. ²² And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

²³ One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵ And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶ He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷ Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸ so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

Introduction

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| Sin ¹ | 2:1-12 Jesus heals a paralytic | Eating |
| | 2:13-17 Jesus Eats With Tax Collectors and Sinners | |
| | 2:18-22 Jesus' Disciples Do Not Fast | |
| Sabbath | 2:23-28 Jesus' Disciples Pluck Grain on the Sabbath | |
| | 3:1-6 Jesus Heals a Withered Hand on the Sabbath | |

I. Eating with Tax Collectors and Sinners

II. Not Fasting While With the Bridegroom

¹ Schema by Joanna Dewey, set forth in Joel Marcus, *Mark 1-8: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*, vol. 27 of Anchor Yale Bible (New Haven; London: Yale University Press, 2008), 213. The names of the sections, however, are my own.

Isa 2:1-4 1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

**³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;**

that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

**⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.**

Acts 2:16–17 ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

**¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.**

III. Plucking Grain on the Sabbath

Deut 23:25 If you go into your neighbor's standing grain, you may pluck the ears with your hand, but you shall not put a sickle to your neighbor's standing grain.

It's All About You, Jesus

I have come to call not the righteous but sinners (v. 17)

*As long as they have **the bridegroom** with them, they cannot fast (v. 19)*

***the Son of Man** is lord even of the sabbath (v. 28)*

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 4:16b ...God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Question: What is one thing that God may have said to you through this sermon?