

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Religion Versus Relationship"
Luke 5:33-39
Study-19

We come to The 3rd Conflict With The Religious Over Fasting: which is recorded in all 3 of the Synoptic Gospels: **Matthew 9:14-17; Mark 2:18-22; Luke 5:33-39**

The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is the Heart and Soul of Christianity and is Absolutely Unique.

Luke 5:17-6:11 A Section That Covers 5 Direct Conflicts With The Religious Leaders.

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Gospel Message Is Both Distinctive/Exclusive, And It Cannot Be Mixed With Any Religion Or Ism."

1. Verse 33 His Controversial Action & Protest

2. Verses 34-39 Silencing His Critics

1. Verse 33 His Controversial Action & Protest

Luke 5:33 And they said to Him,

Context – Jesus has just chosen Matthew/Levi as His disciple. He was a "Tax Collector," and they were hated by the Jews. **Luke 5:30-32**

they said to Him, Matthew's Gospel says it was the disciples of John **Matthew 9:14**

Mark said it was both John's disciples and the Pharisees that came and asked. **Mark 2:18**

they said to Him, - Those who spoke were both John's disciples and the Pharisees **(Verses - 30-32)**

Protest Of The Religious: "The disciples of John often fast and offer prayers; the disciples of the Pharisees also do the same;

Contrasting - A Funeral And A Feast: John The Baptist Disciples

"The disciples of John often fast and offer prayers; – John displayed humility and repentance (Matthew 3:1-4)

John's disciples imitated, showing their own proper humility in light of their own sin and the sin of their people. (Awaiting the Messiah) **John 3:29**

John the Baptist was imprisoned (**Luke 3:20**). The followers were fasting. Not all of John's disciples went to Jesus. Some embraced religion.

Acts 19:1-6 They did not know about Jesus.

fasting; *"refusing of food"* There was only one time that the Law prescribed fasting once a year, on the "Day Of Atonement" (Yon Kippur) **Leviticus 16:29-31**
Leviticus 23:27

There were many occasions in the Old Testament in which people voluntarily fasted - *always connected with being sorrowful, heart-breaking prayer.*

Isaiah 58:3-5

Empty ritual is always the enemy of true godliness. Matthew 6:16-18; Matthew 23:5 **"But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men;**

The False Assumption That True Religion Is Solemn And Joyless!

His Controversial Action: but Yours eat and drink." The accusation against Jesus is false – Over **8 times**, Luke records Jesus praying. Man of prayer Fasted 40 days. **What a Contrast – John's Disciples/ Pharisees – (Funeral) Disciples of Jesus – (Feasting)** smiling, laughing, eating and drinking, with sinners!

This Question/Protest Is With Severe Criticism: Why is Jesus' Practice So Contrary To Our Religion?

- 1. Why does Jesus ignore the required separation from sinners?**
- 2. Why does Jesus ignore the required fasting?**

The Practice of Fasting by the disciples of John/Pharisees was not supported by Scripture.

There is no compatibility between Judaism/Religion & Christianity.

2. Verses 34-39 Silencing His Critics:

Luke 5:34 **"You cannot make the attendants of the bridegroom - attendants of the bridegroom** (*guests of the bridegroom, literally "children of the bride's chamber."*)

fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you?

Jesus is the bridegroom (**Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 31:32; Matthew 25**)

John 3:29

These disciples were the attendants. We, today are the bride **Ephesians 5:32**

**It Is Inappropriate For Attendants Of The Groom To Fast:
"You cannot make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the
bridegroom is with them,**

A rabbinical ruling was given to stop the "Wedding Crashers" that said, *"All in attendance on the bridegroom are relieved of all religious observances which would lessen their joy."* (Follow your own rules!)

What Jesus is saying is that as Christians, we should have a feast in our relationship with Him, not a funeral.

Their religious system is totally bankrupt—merely externals, pursuing a relationship with God through their own works.

Luke 5:35 "But the days will come; and when the bridegroom is taken away from them,

This is the 1st mention of Jesus' death.

taken away - literally *"violently taken away."*

then they will fast in those days." When Jesus was crucified, the disciples would mourn and fast. Disillusioned until He appeared **Luke 24:1-53; Acts 1:14**

Luke 5:36 And He was also telling them a parable:

What is a parable? **parable:** *"It is described as an earthly story with a heavenly meaning."*

The word "**Parable**"- is made up of two words, "Para"- *alongside*. "ballo"- *to throw or cast*. *"To cast alongside."*

Jesus Gives 3 Short Parables:

1. Verse 36 Garments: "No one" (used 3 times: 36,37,39) tears a piece of cloth from a new garment (Spiritual Truth) - The new cloth represents a new relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. It was all grace and not performance.

and puts it on an old garment; (Natural Truth) Material that has been washed, been used, worn. This was Judaism. As good as it was, it was now old; an old worn-out garment.

otherwise he will both tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old.

The newness of the fabric had the power within to destroy all things that attempt to contain it.

Jesus came to bring a new garment. Man needs nothing less than a new garment, not scraps or patches.

Salvation is not a partial patching up of one's life; it is a whole new robe of righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21)

2. Verses 37-38 Wineskins: Luke 5:37 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins;

In ancient times, skins from goats were partly tanned. They were then filled with water, milk, or new wine. They were new and had elasticity.

Luke 5:38 "But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

Jesus rejects the popular Ecumenical Movement unifying into "Globalism."

Don't think you can add Jesus to your religion; you can't. It's a total replacement. John 14:6; Acts 4:12

3. Verse 39 Old And New Wine: Luke 5:39 'The old is good enough.'"

If it is not broken, why fix it? (Won't try or admit it has any merit)

It's very natural for people to hang on to their familiar religion.

'The old is good enough.'" "Ignorance and stubbornness are the twins of religion." I don't know, don't want to change!

1 Corinthians 4:20

Application:

- 1.** The Gospel Message Is Christianity, It Is Both Distinctive, And Exclusive, It Cannot Be Mixed With Any Religion Or Ism.
- 2.** How Would Others Describe My Relationship With God? Would It Be A Feast Or A Funeral?
- 3.** Jesus Did Not Come To Patch Up Our Lives But To Replace.
- 4.** Like Jesus, We Must Actively Oppose Traditions And Non-Biblical Mandates That Violate Relationships.