

## MEALS WITH JESUS

EATING TOGETHER CAN BRING OPPORTUNITIES OF UNITY AND GROWTH BUT THE DEVIL CAN ALSO USE THESE EVENTS TO WEAKEN OUR FAITH, SOW DISCORD AND DISTRACT US FROM THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- **Martha & Mary:** The burdens of ministry can incite envy against its beneficiaries. There is a cost of discipleship, but the “good part” or benefit is worth it. “***Thou art careful and troubled about many things.***” (Luk 10:41) But, Mary has chosen the good part. Don’t take that away from her. (Luk 10:42)
- **Religious Competition, Traditions of men and Ignorance of the Truth:** Can make the word of God of no effect. It can divide the saints and drive prospective converts away from Christianity. We ought to keep the unity of the spirit until we can come into the unity of the faith.
  - “**Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?**” (Mar 7:5) Many things defile a man but not unwashen hands (Mat 15:20) They worship in vain teaching the commandments and traditions of men while rejecting the commandments of God.
  - Accused of Breaking the Law of the Sabbath: Disciples at corn as they walked. Jesus healed on the Sabbath. **The Sabbath made for men** (son of man). **Which is better to do good or evil on the Sabbath?**
  - Disciples didn’t fast like us (Pharisees and John’s Disciples).

## FAST OR FEAST? (Luke 5:33-39)

**Luk\_5:33** And they said unto him, Why do the disciples of John fast often, and make prayers, and likewise the disciples of the Pharisees; but thine eat and drink?

(Mat 9:14 indicated this question was asked by the disciples of John. Most likely their inspiration came from the Pharisees.

**By studying Christ’s response we can see how the Old Time Religion can weaken our faith, divide the saints of God and make us lose a better way of living.**

## INAPPROPRIATE TIMING CAN ROB US OF OUR JOY AND SAP OUR STRENGTH

**Luk 5:34** And he said unto them, Can ye make the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them?

**Luk 5:35** But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

- We can’t trust the wisdom of men: **Saul’s Error in calling a fast at the wrong time. (1 Sam 14)**
- **Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.**
- The reason we have division in the churches today (Why don’t you fast like us?)

- We can't even trust the Old Testament (It was Incomplete without Christ).

**THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE NEW** Can put a difference between us. Bring division and make others flee from Christianity. (Envy of the Pharisees)

**A. They Don't Always Agree (Division and Confusion)**

**Luk 5:36** And he spake also a parable unto them; No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old.

**B. We can't trust the weak and beggarly elements** (traditions, old time religion, casting of lots, fleeces, urim & thummin or the signs of times (an evil generation)

Gal 4:9 But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

Gal 4:10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.

**C. They can be destructive** when mixed.

**Luk 5:37** And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish.

Luk 5:38 But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved.

(1) Applying the Gospel to the Old Testament can be destructive.

(2) The thief on the cross died in the Old Testament.

D. It's difficult to get a person to leave the Old Ways and Come to the New Way.

**Luk 5:39** No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better.

- a. The Old Ways of a sinner
- b. Those indoctrinated in the ways of the religion of men.
- c. That's why we must put off the old and cling to the new (Marriage)

**CONCLUSION:** Why don't your disciples fast like everybody else? Christ's response reminds us not to always trust the old paths. They don't always mix with the truth of the gospel. They often lead to division and confusion and make the word of God of none effect.

Joh 1:16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

Joh 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.