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Class Number: NT 622 Spring 2023

Date: February 28th, 2023

Passage-Chapter Summary

Passage Reference: Mark 7:1-23

You will be using **only** your Bible and your course textbooks to complete this assignment.

You will not be making use of other online, public-domain commentaries and/or teaching/preaching websites, such as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Barnes' Notes
2. Matthew Henry's Commentary
3. Adam Clarke's Commentary
4. Jamieson-Fausset-Brown (JFB) Bible Commentary
5. Other similar commentaries from the 1700s, 1800s, and early 1900s
6. Online Sermon, Preaching, and Teaching websites and the commentaries found on them.

If you have any doubt about whether you should or should not use a source, please contact me before using it, and I will be happy to provide you with some guidance. In general, if you cannot determine the author, the date, and/or the publisher, then the source is not appropriate for your use in this paper.

Scripture references **should not** be in footnotes, but instead in parenthetical citations like this (**Jonah 1:1-4**) or this (**1 Thess 4:1-8**). They are the only things that you will cite using parenthetical citations.

For all other information that you include from another source, such as the notes from *Jewish Annotated New Testament*, a modern commentary, a modern Bible dictionary, etc., you will cite the source using **footnotes (**NO parenthetical Author-Date citations!**) in accordance with the Turabian style manual.**

Here are what the footnotes for your required texts and some other common references should look like, with ### representing the page number(s) you would insert (*feel free to cut and paste them into your footnotes when needed*):

Feel free to copy and paste these footnotes and bibliography entries as needed, changing the ### to the proper page number or page number range.

Craig S. Keener and John H. Walton, eds., *NRSV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019), ###.

Mark L. Strauss, *Mark*, ed. Clinton E. Arnold, ZECNT (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2014), ###.

Burton H. Throckmorton, *Gospel Parallels: A Comparison of the Synoptic Gospels, New Revised Standard Version*, 5th ed. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1992), ###.

Joel Williams, *Mark*, ed. Andreas J. Köstenberger and Robert W. Yarbrough (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2020), ###.

Ben Witherington, *The Gospel of Mark: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001), ###.

Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997), ###.

For more information about footnotes and bibliography entries, please consult the sample footnotes and bibliography document in the Course Resources.

Please respond to each of the following questions/prompts, providing your answer/response after the question/prompt. ***Please do not delete any of the questions/prompts!***

Observation:

- What is happening in the passage?

Jesus is confronted by the pharisees on why his disciples do not wash their hands according to the tradition of the elders.

- Are we able to determine the place and/or time in which the events mentioned occur?

We do not see a specific place in this chapter, but assuming from the previous chapter we can deduce that Jesus is still in the Galilean region.

- Who is mentioned or referred to? Are they mentioned by name, by the group they belong to, by their circumstances or behavior, etc.?

The pharisees, the scribes and they confront Jesus disciples

- Does anyone speak? If so, to whom, and what do they say?

The pharisees they speak to Jesus they say “ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” (Verse 5)

- Are there any Scriptures quoted, cited, or referred to? Are they from the New Testament or Old Testament? If so, which ones and why?

Yes, Jesus quotes Isaiah 29:13 “And the Lord said:

“Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,

Interpretation:

- Is there any special social, cultural, historical, and/or religious information that is being referred to/mentioned and that needs to be understood to understand the context? ***If you use any information from the CBSB or any of your other course textbooks, make sure to footnote the material properly.***

Yes, the pharisees make reference to the disciples not washing their hands, and following the tradition of their elders. Keener and Walton in the Cultural Background Study Bible explain “ The Jewish custom of washing hands arose after the completion of the OT, probably in the Diaspora. Mark’s audience may only have known only the Diaspora practice, but the Pharisees, who were centered in Judea, were known to be particularly meticulous in this custom.”¹

- Your Summary:
 - *In your own words*, summarize in two paragraphs/ten sentences what is being presented and/or taught in the passage. Summary of two paragraphs/ten sentences:

Jesus is being confronted with human tradition and he gets upset at the Pharisees for their hypocrisy. The Pharisees, in an effort to get closer to God and guide the people to follow the commandments seem to have added rules and traditions. Though their intentions may be noble but they added a big burden on people’s life. They lost track of the main idea and the purpose of these rules.

Jesus clarifies that is not what comes in to the body that defiles the soul. He cleans what they deemed unclean in an effort to explain that the issue is in the heart and not the mouth. The importance of a heart that is honorable to God, by really following God’s commandments is what Jesus stresses in this passage. His tone of frustration against the Pharisees seems similar towards his disciples to whom he said with surprised “ Then you fail to understand?” Jesus is again reinterpreting the law with an approach on redemption and not just in vain rules.

- Then, in one concise statement or sentence, state, ***in your own words***, the main thrust or point of what the passage is teaching or presenting. What is the main thrust of the message/teaching/narrative to the original audience in their context?

¹ Craig S. Keener and John H. Walton, eds., *NRSV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019), 1718.

The passage is trying to convey the need to follow God's law but with God's help, and not to make the rules the end in itself. In Mark 7, verse 9 " You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." They were interested in human tradition and not in God's commandment. They appeared to be righteous but didn't even follow fully the first commandment with a promise (Ephesians 6: 1) "honor your father and mother." This is outrageous, especially because they gave the impression of following all the law, yet were apart from God

Application(s):

1. Impact on/Importance to Believers, Unbelievers, and Me: (What is the importance/significance of these events to people today? What applications might we make to our own lives, such as what we believe, how we treat others, what we do, etc.? In other words, how should knowing what is in this passage then change us now?)
 - A. Believers: (What does this passage teach a new Christian, a mature believer, etc. about who God is, what He has done, what He is going to do, etc.? Is there a promise to be relied upon, a truth to be known and trusted, a command to be obeyed, etc.?)

To believers this passage focuses salvation in following God's commands and not to focus on human rules. Jesus brings a warning, of what truly is what defiles the body "adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly" those are the things that defile a person."

- B. Unbelievers: (What does this passage teach someone who has not yet trusted Christ?)

This passage teaches an unbeliever to realize that Jesus also despise hypocrites. Jesus doesn't like people who are religious and don't follow God's commands.

Me: (What does this passage teach me about God, His ways, and His actions in the past, present, and future? How does this instruct and/or challenge me?)

This passage confronts me in the way I may have "religiosity" in me. Where am I more focused on my own human tradition or the way I understand church to be and not the way that Jesus transforms hearts. In what ways have allowed any of these things that defile me to take root: "adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly" those are the things that defile a person."

2. Teaching/Sharing:

- A. What essential elements would you want to include when teaching or sharing what you have learned from this text with those in your family, your friends, and/or those in your home church?

I would like to explain more the historical context of what the Pharisees were implying with their rules. Also how these connect with modern day pharisaic traditions or rules. I

- B. Are there any parts of it that might require special explanation to help those you share this with understand what you are talking about?

Understanding the historical and theological context on why the Pharisees and Scribes were so adamant about the need to follow these traditions.

- C. Are there any parts of it that might be especially challenging or disturbing to some of those with whom you might share this?

The amount of rules that Pharisees had to follow may be a little disturbing to some people.