



## **Part 1: The Unusual Suspects**

### **Introduction – Thinking The Unthinkable**

Matthew 12:14; Mark 3:6

### **The Perfect Neighbours – Insulted By Jesus**

Matthew 5:20 vs. Acts 26:5  
Luke 13:17; Matthew 21:31, 43

### **Trashing Tradition – The Fight Against Oral Sects**

\*\*\*Mark 7:1-14\*\*\*

1. Traditions may be \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Timothy 2:9-10; James 2:1-13; 1 Peter 3:3  
Luke 12:35 ; Romans 13:14; Galatians 3:27; Ephesians 4:24; 6:14-17; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 Peter 5:5.  
VS.  
2. Traditions may discourage \_\_\_\_\_ faith.  
3. Traditions focus on the \_\_\_\_\_; Jesus focuses on the \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Traditions can create a false sense of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 15:14; 23:16, 24.  
5. Traditions can facilitate spiritual \_\_\_\_\_  
6. Traditions are often the soil for \_\_\_\_\_ and judgementalism.  
7. Traditions can erect unnecessary barriers between Jesus and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

TAKE OUT: Faith must be personally \_\_\_\_\_, never blindly \_\_\_\_\_

### **Transcending Torah – A Whole New Way Of Thinking** John 5:39-40; 14:6

TAKE OUT: Remember to treat God like he is a \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Yeast Of The Pharisees**

Luke 12:1

According to Jesus, *hypocrisy* is the *misdirected tendency to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_ and fail to look beneath the surface to the \_\_\_\_\_ meaning of things.*

Matthew 7:5; Mark 7:6; Luke 6:42; 12:56; Galatians 2:11-14  
John 7:24  
Matthew 23:1-33

TAKE OUT: Prioritize \_\_\_\_\_, rather than \_\_\_\_\_ (23:23)

### **Conclusion – Dropping Our Masks**

#### **HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...**

##### WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.

##### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Read about the events that drove the Pharisees to plan Jesus' murder in **Matthew 12:1-14**. a) Using the following three concepts – the *precept* (the rule itself), the *principle* (the meaning behind the rule), and the *practice* (how we are meant to apply the precept and/or the principle in our lives) – describe the fundamental difference between how the Pharisees interpret Scripture and how Jesus interprets Scripture. b) In your church experience, have you ever known Christ-followers to use Scripture more like the Pharisees than like Jesus? c) What provocative, *irreligious* statement is Jesus making by saying God desires mercy more than sacrifices? d) The *Tradition of the Elders* taught that a physician could only attempt to heal someone on the Sabbath if it was a life or death situation. How does Jesus point out the futility of the Pharisees' legalistic tradition? e) Why would this drive decent religious men to actually plan for Jesus' murder?

##### SO WHAT?...

3. Learning to read the Bible more like Jesus only helps if we are actually reading our Bibles. How do your personal weekly Bible reading habits need to improve? Pray for each other in light of this.