

2024 3Q The Book of Mark Lesson 6 Inside Out

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

Read memory verse:

• There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man. (Mark 7:15 NKJV).

What is taught from this passage?

Jesus was answering a question from the religious leaders that was intended to accuse Jesus and His followers of being sinners, being unfaithful, of being heretics, of rejecting church authority. They asked Him:

• "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?" (Mark 7:5).

The issue here wasn't about hygiene, sanitation, avoiding germs, or physical health, it was about superstition, about magical thinking, about fantasy, about make-believe, the idea that ceremonial washing of one's hands before eating food could change the sin condition of a person, the idea that not ceremonially washing could make one sinful.

This idea came from the ceremony given through Moses for the priests in their theatrical role of acting out the plan of salvation. But the Jews took the symbols and thought concretely, literally, magically, they didn't learn the reality to which the symbols pointed and thus created a false religion based on the symbols given by God.

Worse, rather than teaching people the reality that the symbols represented they instead extrapolated the symbolic ceremonies intended only for the priest actors in the religious theater to create religious works and burdens for the people. This, rather than freeing the people from sin, from fear, from selfishness, rather than enlightening the minds of the people and bringing them closer to God, instead darkened their minds, increased fear, added burdens, increased a sense of hopelessness and presented an intolerant, arbitrary, judgmental god.

So the first lesson from our memory verse is the realization that salvation is not about ceremonies. Ceremonies are only tools whose only benefit is to help one understand, embrace, experience, apply, and advance in truth—in reality. The Jews taught superstitious beliefs—magical thinking, like rituals and ceremonies could make a difference in one's sin condition. Do we do anything similar today?

- Various teachings about magical things happening from the communion ceremony rather than
 using the ceremony to point hearts and minds to Jesus our real Savior who provides real bread
 for our hearts and minds and real cleansing from sin
- Various magical teachings about baptism and how the ceremony cleanses from sin or makes a legal difference
- Various teachings about the atonement and how magical or legal things happen outside of the sinner by the application of blood to various things in heaven
- Various teachings about word choices—how one has to use the right words, whether in the baptism ceremony, or when praying, or when speaking of Jesus, as if the right words have some magical power
- Various teachings about right versions of the Bible that only the KJV is authorized, or magical thinking about power being in the words that are said rather than the power in God and His truth.
- Others?

The second lesson we learn is that salvation is not about what food we eat, but what character we develop and that is a result of...

The third lesson, which is that salvation is not about food that feeds the body but about food that feeds the soul. Our characters are formed by our thoughts and feelings combined. Our thoughts include our beliefs, morals, values, what we believe in our hearts to be true and that causes us to form emotional attachment to people, things, ideas and that forms our character. So if we feed on the worldly, whether vile, debasing, and vulgar things, or apparent good things like legal justice with the idea that right and good is found in more law and more law enforcement, with the infliction of just punishments, we form characters like God's enemy rather than like Jesus. And our words, attitudes, actions will demonstrate the values we hold in our hearts and minds, our characters.

The fourth lesson we learn is the salvation is not external it is internal:

- "Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7 NIV84).
- "The kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21 NIV84).

We learn that sin is a problem of heart and mind and that salvation is cleansing of hearts and minds of sinners from sin, removing from us fear, selfishness, lusts, passions, hatred, jealousies, envy, bitterness, and the lies about God and His kingdom such that we in heart and mind are united, at-one, with God and heaven again. When this happens we experience the unity that is inherent, automatic, unavoidable, in our faith.

This is why the Bible teaches the following metaphors about salvation:

- Being reborn
- Having the heart circumcised by the Holy Spirit

- Having the mind of Christ
- Dying to the old life and living a new life
- Partaking of the divine nature
- Having the heart of stone removed and a tender heart restored within
- Having the law written upon the heart and mind
- Have a clean heart and right spirit created within
- Being renewed in the inner man
- Being a new creature in Christ

Salvation is real—it is the real changing, transforming, renewing, recreating of the internal motives, drives, desires, attitudes of the heart with new ones based on love and trust of God through the truth provided by God and the victory of Jesus Christ that is applied to our hearts via the work of the Holy Spirit, when we open our hearts in trust.

Satan is the original liar, the father of fantasy and fable; he is the maker of myths, master of makebelieve, patriarch of pretend, sire of superstition, wizard of wickedness, architect of the artificial, creator of the counterfeit, founder of fake, the great imposter, preeminent pretender, and diabolical deceiver who declares so that which is not so.

God is the God of reality—the Creator of the cosmos, the Source and Sustainer of life itself. God is truth, the Author of what is real, factual, objective, honest, true, and right.

Satan's kingdom is an imposter of God's reality. It is an artificial construct that infects our minds and corrupts our understanding of reality. Satan's system acts like a dark veil covering our eyes; it obscures our ability to see the truth of God's kingdom. As the apostle Paul wrote, "For now we see through a glass, darkly" (1 Corinthians 13:12 KJV).

God's kingdom is the way things are, actuality, what is real and true. It is how reality is designed to function; it is the way of life, health, and happiness; it enlightens the mind, changing the foolish into the wise.

Satan's kingdom is built upon made-up rules.

God's kingdom is built upon eternal laws, the protocols reality functions upon (laws of physics, gravity, health, and moral laws).

Satan's kingdom operates upon lies, fear, intimidation, threat, inflicted external punishments, coercion, and the restriction of liberty.

God's kingdom operates upon truth, love, and freedom.

Satan darkens the minds of all humanity with his lie that his make-believe system of made-up rules that require external enforcement is also the way God's kingdom works.

And this leads to all kinds of fantasy thinking, like persons in authority determine what is true or not, what is right or not. In other words, it is by the voice of authority that we can determine whether something is true. This was the methods of the Dark Ages church, the voice of papal authority. But it is sadly the method used today by far too many. Many in the SDA church, use this method, "the pastor said, the theology professors said, the church officials have said" that Come and Reason doesn't teach the truth. The individuals don't investigate for themselves, don't examine the evidence, they have surrendered their thinking to others.

You find this in the world today, particularly on the left side of the political spectrum with the declarations that there is no such thing as male and female, that there is no difference between a male skeleton and a female skeleton. That truth isn't determined by reality, but by declaration of those in charge.

Who has to do this? The ones without truth—not only without truth, but those who hate the truth, those who actively seek to obscure the truth and who are seeking to control minds through propaganda, lies, distortions, and falsehood. This is Satan's domain, the father of lies. An honest, Christlike person will certainly believe things that turn out to be false—but their heart actively seeks the truth, they want to know reality, and they will replace the false with the true as soon as they can understand it, and they use the methods of God, they think for themselves, they use Scripture integrated with God's revelations in nature and life experiences. Thus they never rest satisfied on previous generations explanations but are advancing in the truth because the truth is unfolding.

But the agents of God's enemy will use the methods of deceit, of obfuscation, of confusion, of seeking to make things less identifiable, less certain, like Pontius Pilate, when he said, "what is truth?"

We, who are lovers of the truth, seek to identify those testable truths that never change and then harmonize our understanding with them. That is what Jesus did.

Jesus went around restoring people to harmony with God's design laws—healing physical illness, thereby restoring people to harmony with the laws of health; forgiving sins, thereby restoring hearts and minds to harmony with the law of love and truth—and the religious leaders hated Him because their minds were darkened with Satan's fantasy that God's law is imposed rules that require inflicted punishment. They accused Jesus of being a law-breaker (John 19:7).

They taught the fantasy that righteousness was rule-keeping and justice was punishing rule-breakers. They could not see through the dark penal-legal veil that Satan had woven over the minds of people.

The evil way is to replace objective reality, how God constructed life to function, with a fake system of made-up rules and external legal enforcement—an artificial way of thinking and functioning.

It is only through Jesus and the Spirit of truth that we can penetrate this veil of satanic deception. It is only with a heart reborn into God's kingdom of love that we can overcome fear and recognize that true righteousness and justice is to:

- Forgive those who have wronged us rather than demand they be punished (Matthew 6:12, 14).
- Bless those who persecute us rather than cursing them (Romans 12:14).
- Turn the other cheek rather than striking back (Matthew 5:39).
- Love our enemies rather than hating them (Matthew 5:43, 44).
- Feed your hungry enemy rather than let them starve (Romans 12:20).

But God's kingdom, methods, principles are foolishness to those caught up in the delusional imposed law, legal systems of this world. They do the exact opposite of God's kingdom. They think that justice is to inflict punishment, to coerce, force, intimidate, control, censor and censure, and restrict liberties.

Jesus said,

• "My kingdom is not of this world. **If it were, my servants would fight** to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. **Everyone on the side of truth listens to me**" (John 18:36, 37 NIV84, emphasis mine).

Those who are on the side of truth do not wage war like the world does; we do not seek to make others conform through fear and punishment. Instead, we seek to win their hearts to loving trust and friendship.

Jesus calls every person who is on the side of truth, to come out of the delusional, artificial, makebelieve penal/legal systems of this world, out of believing justice is obtained by legal means, by inflicted punishment, and into His kingdom of truth, love, and freedom.

Our memory verse teaches us reality—it is the condition of the heart and mind that matters, not externals, not ceremonies, not legal adjustments in books somewhere.

SUNDAY

The lesson focuses our attention on another lesson from Jesus' statement, and the authors are identifying the right principle, and that is loyalty to God's commands, God's instructions, God's design laws rather than human tradition.

The example the lesson cites is the one Jesus used, that of *Corban*. Rather than honoring one's parents by using one's resources to care for them in their old age, *Corban* was the tradition of declaring one's resources dedicated to the Temple; basically placing ones resources in a trust that you could use while alive but would go to the Temple when you died. When one declared their estate *Corban* they kept all their wealth to themselves to use for themselves until their death and at their death all their wealth was given to the Temple. Using their wealth to help their parents after declaring *Corban* was considered to

be stealing from the Temple. Thus Jesus rightly condemned this human tradition that had superseded the law of God.

But what is the problem with doing this, with practicing *Corban*? Is it a legal problem? If a Jew practiced *Corban* and did not provide for their parents, did they get in legal trouble in heaven? Was there an angel following them around and keeping tally of every time their parents needed help? Was it that every time the person refused to provide their parents aid that they received a demerit in a heavenly legal registry, a new sin debt was accrued that in the judgment would be tallied up to determine how much suffering God must inflict upon them before He kills them?

Or, is practicing *Corban* a demonstration of selfishness in the heart hidden under the guise of religiosity, righteousness, and claims of loyalty to the God of heaven. And such practices sear the conscience of the person who practices them, hardening their heart, making them more selfish, more like Satan, and if persisted in destroys the faculties that respond to love and truth, while simultaneously misrepresenting God and leading others away from salvation?

What is the problem—a legal problem or a reality problem?

And what will happen to people who have hardened themselves in sin, in fear and selfishness, when they are exposed to infinite love and truth and their lies about themselves cannot prevent them from experiencing the reality of their own vile, evil, corrupt, and terminal condition? A terrible agony of mind and heart, wailing and gnashing of teeth, begging for the rocks to fall on them. This is what God wants to prevent people from experiencing, the unavoidable torment and suffering that unremedied sin causes in the sinner.

And do we do anything like *Corban* in Christianity today?

Are there traditions that have infected our understanding of the law of God, the Commandments of God, that cause people to break the commandments with tradition while the person believes they are keeping the commandments?

What about in Jesus' day—did the Jews who rejected and crucified Jesus, seek to keep the Sabbath Commandment? And when Jesus healed on Sabbath, or His apostles pulled heads of grain on Sabbath, did the Jews celebrate such actions or did they accuse Jesus and His disciples of breaking God's commandments?

Were the Jews observing the right Sabbath day of the week, seeking to keep the commandment of God and not replace the Sabbath with human tradition? But were they keeping it in such a way that they were actually Sabbath breakers? How?

Do we do the same thing today? How?

What does it mean to keep God's law? Can it be done in reality behaviorally, or is the reality a heart issue that results in behavior change? So, can a person do what appear to be right behaviors but in heart be in rebellion against God?

And what leads to the right behaviors approach to obeying the commandments? The lie that God's law functions like human law. It results in a legal religion of dos and don'ts, and Sabbath keeping rather than being a delight, a holiday from all the stress in which we celebrate our freedom in Jesus each week, becomes they day of greatest worry, fear, and anxiety that we have done something wrong to break the legal code of Sabbath conduct.

MONDAY

Read first paragraph,

• Jesus' words in this passage have been a conundrum for many as they ponder their relationship to the teachings of Leviticus 11 regarding clean and unclean foods. Is Jesus doing away with such distinctions? Are Seventh-day Adventists mistaken in teaching that church members who eat meat are to eat it only from the clean-animal list? (Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2024, The Book of Mark p. 48).

What is the problem that people have when they try to understand issues like this? The difference between reality and ceremony, truth and symbols.

All metaphor, symbols, parables, ceremony, ritual only has saving benefit to the degree it connects directly to truth, to reality.

If we disconnect the symbols from reality we create fantasy and fantasy is falsehood and that is the power and domain of Satan. Fantasy creates magical thinking, myths, fables, superstitious thinking, which cloud minds and increase fear and keep people from knowing God.

So what is the reality and the fantasy that get conflated—merged together that keep people confused?

Not realizing the difference between the theatrical, the acting out of a drama in the Levitical system, and reality itself. All the Levitical laws were designed to teach something through ritual, theater, drama. And thus there was a lot of ceremonial laws that were written that would disqualify someone from taking the stage, from acting out their role, because if they went on stage while violating those ceremonial rules, they would symbolically teach lies about God and the plan of salvation.

Many Christians of other denominations recognize that the foods we eat have no bearing on our salvation—so they eat anything they want. And when I talk to Christians of other faiths I ask a simple question that disentangles the conflated issue, and yes it separates imposed rules from design law.

I point out that the ceremonial law was done away with at the cross and one can eat anything they want today and not be ceremonially unclean—but does that mean the laws of health were done away with at the cross?

So, if your only concern is to avoid ceremonial uncleanliness, then eat anything you want. But if your concern is to care for your Spirit temple, keeping your body in the best condition, with the best health so you can be of the greatest usefulness in God's cause for the longest time, then you eat what is in harmony with the laws of health. And this was the primary purpose of the clean and unclean meats, to minimize damage to our bodies for those who choose to eat animals.

Remember, God's plan was for them to eat manna, but they demanded meat and so God gave them the list of animals to eat and instructions on how to prepare it, drain out all the blood, cut out all the fat, and cook it well done, thus getting a piece of well cooked protein. But how do people like their meat, even clean meats today? Bloody and fatty, which is the most unhealthy thing one can do when eating meat.

Paul dealt with the issue of foods and salvation in Romans 14 when he said those with weak faith eat only vegetables while those with great faith can eat anything. The issue for Paul was not nutrition or health of the body, but superstition taking root in the mind causing fear and giving the demonic forces power over people's minds.

In Paul's day the meat sold in the meat market was from an animal that was butchered after it was sacrificed as an offering to some pagan god. The idea began to circulate among the Christians that if you were eating such meat you were not being loyal to Jesus, or you were giving honor to the pagan god, or opening yourself up to the power of the false god.

And you can guess how such a thing started, some infantile, childlike, rule-keeping, legalistic dogoder convert, who did not understand reality, realized the meats were offered to false gods and began to worry and being the good person that they were wanted to share their worries and fears with all their fellow Christians.

It became such a problem that Paul had to address it, and he told the people that idols, wood, stone, metal cannot effect the nutritional quality of the food. So if you are mature enough to understand reality, eat any food from the market **that is given by God** for us to eat, whether it was offered to an idol or not for idols are nothing. But if your thinking is so immature that you believe that the food offered to an idol can somehow put you under that idol's spell or power, then be sure not to eat it. The problem isn't the food, but the beliefs one allows to enter their mind which, if those beliefs are lies, causes one all kinds of turmoil, anguish, discouragement, fear, and undermine their relationship with Jesus.

Do we do anything similar today?

Read last paragraph,

• When the reference to the fifth commandment in Mark 7:10 is included with the vice list, every commandment of the second table of the Decalogue is there. Further, Jesus refers to vain worship, in Mark 7:7, the breaking of what is at the heart of the first four commands of the Decalogue. Thus, Jesus stands as a defender of the Law of God throughout this passage. (Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2024, The Book of Mark p. 48).

There is no doubt Jesus always defends, sustains, and upholds the law of God. But does that mean Jesus was promoting a legal religion, an imposed law theology?

Or was Jesus teaching that vain worship is keeping the commandments of God legally, as rules to be kept—that penal substitutionary theology is vain worship?

One can obey the commandments behaviorally, not in truth, but fraudulently—all by the 10th, there is no behavior not to covet, it is all about the heart, which exposes the truth about the law of God. God's law is not imposed rules. God's laws are the protocols life is built to operate upon and those protocols must be restored into us as the operating methods and motives of all our actions if we are to live, to thrive, to be healed from sin. This is why the new covenant is God writing His law upon our hearts and minds.

And why Paul wrote, in summation of his discussion about what foods to eat,

• "Everything that does not come from faith is sin." (Romans 14:23 NIV84).

Sin is not primarily about the behavior, it is about the motivation of the heart.

That is why Jesus said,

• "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." (Matthew 12:33-37 NIV84).

TUESDAY

The lesson focuses our attention on the foreign woman who asks Jesus to heal her daughter, and how Jesus initially responds by telling her that the food on the table is not for the dogs. And she responds that even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table. And Jesus healed her daughter.

Do we believe Jesus knew how this encounter would go before the woman even came? I do. I don't think Jesus was in the dark about this woman and her heart motive, attitude, commitment, confidence, faith, determination.

He knew He was going to heal her daughter. So why did He take the approach He did?

Because He wanted to teach His disciples some things. He wanted to break down prejudice and barriers in His disciples' hearts. Something Peter still struggled with after Jesus' resurrection—do you remember when Peter was instructed to go to the Gentiles?

So in this story, Jesus knew His comments were not going to discourage this woman. He knew she already had such a strong faith that He could work with her to teach lessons to His disciples.

I think we often misread things in Scripture because we are not reading through the lens of reality, God's reality, and instead box God into our finite understanding of things, whether human law understanding, or our finite limitation with time.

WEDNESDAY

The lesson focuses on Jesus healing the deaf mute. Jesus put his fingers in the man's ear and spit on His fingers and touched the man's tongue and said "be opened" and the man could hear and speak.

I have read no explanation for why Jesus chose this procedure to heal the man, other than acting in accordance with local expectations for healing. In other words, the man couldn't hear, they didn't have formal sign language, and Jesus' behavior was a form of non-verbal communication intended to communicate to the man that Jesus was going to heal him.

Read fourth paragraph, about Jesus sighing during this event.

• Jesus miraculously restored the man's hearing and enabled him to speak clearly. His sigh illustrates the limits that God has placed upon Himself in regard to the free choice of humanity. He will not force the will. All humans are free to choose whom they will have lead their life—the Prince of Life or the prince of darkness. Jesus could open deaf ears but would not force unbelieving hearts to acknowledge His messiahship. (Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2024, The Book of Mark p. 50).

The sigh was an expression of sadness at the condition of humanity, His creation, how humanity not only suffered from physical maladies, but this man's deafness and muteness was symbolic of the deafness of humanity to the truth of God's kingdom and the inability of so many to communicate God's truths effectively.

What do you think about the idea that God cannot force human will, that God leaves us free to choose for ourselves? First, it is absolutely true. But why?

What is the reason God does not force us?

What would be the result if God were to use divine power to override someone's will and force a change upon them? It would destroy that person's mind, their individuality, it would make them into a puppet—and puppets cannot love.

What about one step short of neurobiologically reprogramming by God, instead of God forcing someone to think the way He wants them to, He instead only threatens to torture and kill them if they don't do what He says, believe what He tells them, or obey what He directs, what then?

Can God get love, loyalty, trust, and devotion from people by threatening to harm them if they don't love and trust Him?

But what is the predominate view of sin and God's response to it? What do the majority of Abrahamic religions, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity teach God will do to the unrepentant wicked in the end?

Isn't it taught that God will either gladly or sadly use His power to torture and kill so that justice is done?

Yet, if God were to do that, God would be violating His own design law of liberty and such an action would destroy love and incite rebellion.

So understand the truth, the idea that God would do this is a lie of Satan designed to prevent people from experiencing salvation, designed to spread rebellion, fear, selfishness, and to prepare the world to accept Satan when he impersonates Christ and comes claiming he is required by law to use his power to punish evil and sin.

When we return to worshiping God as Creator we understand His laws are the protocols life is built upon and breaking them results in death unless healed by the Creator. So all who refuse God He only has to stop His divine power that He has been using to hold death at bay, God only has to let go and when the life giver lets go, the wicked die in the end—as Scripture teaches, the wages of sin is death, sin when full grown brings forth death, those who sow to the carnal nature from that nature reap destruction.

The world is heading to the final culmination of this long-standing war and there will be two versions of God presented, the Creator God of love versus the imposer god of law and punishment. Sadly, the entire world will follow after the beastly god of this age—all but the elect.

THURSDAY

• Why not demonstrate His divine power and convince these cavilers? The problem goes back to the end of Mark 3, where Jesus speaks of the sin against the Holy Spirit. If one's ears are shut

and eyes are closed, another miracle, even a sign from heaven, will not convince. It would just be dismissed like everything before. Even miracles are not enough to convince those determined not to believe. (Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2024, The Book of Mark p. 51).

Do we have evidence that displays of divine power to hardened people have no saving impact?

- Did miracles persuade Pharaoh?
- When they came to arrest Jesus His divinity flashed through humanity and the soldiers fell down—miracle one—were they converted?
- Peter takes advantage and swings his sword cutting of Malchus's ear (John 18:10). Jesus puts the ear back on, miracle two—were they converted?

The lesson is correct, miracles do not convert people, they can intimidate people, but they do not convert. Conversion is when a person is persuaded in their own mind and chooses to say yes to either the truth or the lie. People can convert to a lie as well as to the truth.

Read second paragraph,

• Jesus takes the opportunity to warn the disciples against the "leaven" of the Pharisees and Herod (Mark 8:15), meaning their teachings (compare with Matt. 16:12). (Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2024, The Book of Mark p. 51).

Consider what leaven, or yeast does in bread.

When you eat the bread, do you notice the yeast? Has the yeast had an effect on the bread? But while the effect is noticeable, is the yeast itself noticeable?

Can you apply that to the yeast of the Pharisees and Herod? What is the yeast, the teachings, that have an effect but people don't even seem to notice?

Isn't it the assumed beliefs, the beliefs that twist and change all other beliefs when one believes them?

And the core infecting yeast is the lie that God's law functions like human law, it permeates people's minds and hearts and incites fear, undermines trust in God, and places true factual doctrines in false settings making one a law breaker while they are actively working to keep the law. Like the Jews Sabbath keeping was actually Sabbath breaking, not because they had the wrong day, but because the set Sabbath keeping in a penal legal understanding and kept it as a rule to be enforced.

Sadly, many Christians fall into this same trap, they have some right doctrinal fact, but it is set in the yeast of human imposed law and that corrupts the truth to teach a lie. Example:

• Truth Jesus is our substitutionary Savior who took the place of fallen humanity, bearing our sin burden to the cross for the purpose of saving humanity, defeating Satan, and eliminating sin from God's universe.

• Corrupted truth by the yeast of imposed law: God's law requires God use His power to inflict punishment for our sin. After Adam sinned God was required by law to kill humans for justice sake. But God loved us and sent Jesus to take our legal place and legally placed the sins of all humans on Jesus and then God executed, killed Jesus to pay our sin debt satisfying divine justice. Now Jesus can serve as our heavenly defense attorney and if we accept the legal payment of Jesus to pay our sin debt then He will plead His blood to the Father to propitiate the Father's wrath and the Father won't kill us.

The truth of Jesus' substitutionary sacrifice to restore us to unity to God is perverted by the yeast of human imposed law to teach a lie, undermine trust in God, and incite fear and prepare the world for Satan's impersonation of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEW PODCAST LAUNCH JULY 23—Designed4More: We are excited to announce the launch of our new podcast, Designed 4 More—which is a joint effort of Come and Reason Ministries and Honey Lake Clinic. Our first show will be released Tuesday July 23, and we will release a new show every Tuesday thereafter. The focus is God's design for the four domains of our lives, body, mind, spirit, and relationships and how we can only thrive in harmony with His design laws for life. We will explore a wide variety of topics and subjects, physical, mental, spiritual, relational, organizational etc. all seeking to understand how to apply God's designs to our real-world, real-life decisions and actions. If you have topics or questions you would like to see a show on, you can email your question or topic to questions@designed4more.net

South Africa: All 10 Come and Reason Tracts have now been translated into Afrikaans and are available for download on our website under the languages tab.

Light from the Sanctuary Presentation: Several weeks ago I presented our understanding of the Sanctuary message from the design law reality, God's plan to heal and cleanse us so we are ready to meet Him when He comes. We have this video along with the power point slides available online and have sent out an email this week with the promotion and link. We are asking you to forward it with your recommendation or encouragement to all of your Adventist family and friends. Ask them to view it and see if this isn't the first presentation that actually makes sense on this subject. https://comeandreason.com/light-from-the-sanctuary/

If you don't have the email to forward to your friends, you can request it at requests@comeandreason.com or you can simply forward the link yourself.