

LOOPHOLE RELIGION

YOU'RE NOT FAR: PART 4

Nathaniel Sorensen * April 28, 2024 * New Life Vineyard Church

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Him. They observed that some of His disciples were eating their bread with unclean – that is, unwashed -hand. (For the Pharisees, in fact all the Jews, will not eat unless they wash their hands ritually, keeping the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they have washed. And there are many other customs they have received and keep, like the washing of cups, jugs, copper utensils, and dining couches.) Then the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, “Why don’t Your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders, instead of eating bread with ritually unclean hands?”

He answered them, “Isaiah prophesied correctly about you hypocrites, as it is written:

These people honor Me with their lips,
but their heart is far from Me.
They worship Me in vain,
teaching as doctrines the commands of men.

Disregarding the command of God, you keep the tradition of men.”

He also said to them, “You completely invalidate God’s command in order to maintain your tradition! For Moses said:

Honor your father and your mother; and
Whoever speaks evil of father or mother
must be put to death.

But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or mother: Whatever benefit you might have received from me is Corban’” (that is, a gift committed to the temple), “you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. You revoke God’s word by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many other similar things.”

Mark 7:1-13

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes...

Mark 8:31

Is it possible you’ve learned to trust in a _____
more than what Jesus has actually _____?

1. Do you ever try to figure out how _____
you can get to sin without _____ sinning?

2. Do you believe there’s some kind of _____
that makes you right with God while removing
your _____ to make things right
with other people?

3. Do you ever feel _____ about missing
_____ than you do about _____
someone at work or school?

4. Are you maybe banking on the _____ that
God has _____ - _____ loss?

When we fall short, let’s not make _____,
let’s make _____.