

The Scandal Maker

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Mark 2:13-3:6.

B. Jesus refused to be boxed in by any human limitations for the sake of freedom.

II. The calling of Matthew.

A. Jesus told the troubled Pharisees that He did not come to call the righteous but the sinners at Matthew's feast.

B. When a man or woman does not think they need God there is little that can be done for them.

C. People are more important than prejudices.

III. The matter of tradition.

A. A group of Pharisees was offended because the disciples were not fasting. The Pharisees fasted to call attention to their piety.

B. Jesus reminded them that the bridegroom was with them, so there was no time for mourning.

1. He puts His finger on the new relationship and what it would mean to men.

2. There can be joy in every circumstance now because of the new intimate relationship with Christ.

C. Fresh relationships require new experiences.

D. Strong reactions need flexible expressions.

1. Things need to change when the Lord comes into a person's life.

2. Traditions must not be permitted to destroy relationships.

IV. The matter of rules.

A. The Sabbath had been restricted with several rules making it a burden to bear.

B. The Sabbath was made for rest not for a burden.

C. Human needs always take precedence over rules.

1. Rules are orderly ways to meet needs.

2. When they oppose needs, they must go.

V. The Jewish rulers sought to kill Jesus.

A. Jesus was not harsh in His actions nor was He outlandish.

B. Jesus was being true to truth.

Application questions:

1. When have you seen tradition become a hindrance to the life of the church? What did you learn from the incident?

2. When have you struggled to love someone because of a prejudice? How does this message challenge you in that area?

3. Are believers to obey the Sabbath? Explain your answer.
