**Series: Mark (Jesus - the Son of God)
Sermon: Jesus is Greater than Judaism Bible Verses: Mark 2:18-22
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*New designs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the old structures.*

THE STRUCTURE OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CANNOT TOLERATE JESUS’ WAYS.

Not one religious’ system on Earth does what Jesus did. Every man-made religion says, “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do it!” but Jesus declares: “GOD IS THE ONE WHO FREELY GRANTS SALVATION THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!”

Fasting was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Jewish religious system and was part of representing God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for them, on the Day of Atonement.

When Jesus’ disciples didn’t fast, the others thought they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 **Jesus says “Friends of the Groom don’t fast when he’s with them.”
Jesus uses the analogy of a wedding for three reasons:**

1) Fasting was often used to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and on the Day of Atonement, it represented solemnness, but since *the Messiah (Jesus) had arrived on Earth (for the wedding)* and would forgive their sins, nobody needed to be solemn or sad!

2) During wedding feasts fasting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3) The Scriptures prophesied that when the Messiah came, he would be the “groom” coming to “wed” his people. The analogy was fulfilled when Jesus arrived: *he was claiming \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Messiah, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!*

The Law of Moses and the old covenant were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (weak and useless according to Hebrews) to Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and covenant because they couldn’t forgive us permanently or turn our hearts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God.

 **Practical Application Question:**
What \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ am I holding onto that cannot accommodate the new life Jesus offers?

Example: Attending \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, praying, fasting out of obligation not a genuine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to grow closer to God.

Example: Clinging to traditional methods \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and resisting new ways that could reach more people for Jesus Christ.

**Practical Application:** I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to help me think through my ways of doing things. Am I stuck in a habit that I can’t, see? Have I created my own little religious system and am unaware of it?
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a growth group, I’ll have people who can give me a Godly perspective on my way of thinking.