



"FEASTING, NOT FASTING! IT'S NOT A WAKE; IT'S A WEDDING"

MARK 2:18-20 BIBLE STUDY

DANNY SCOTTON, JR.



CONTEXT



[The] beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God -(Mk 1:1, AT)



CONTEXT



And after leaving, straight away, the Pharisees began plotting against Him with the Herodians [concerning] how they might destroy Him. (Mk 3:6, AT)



MARK 2:18 HOW COME *THEY* FAST BUT YOU DON'T?



Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. And [people] come saying to Him, "Why do the disciples of John as well as the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" (Mk 2:18, AT)



MARK 2:18 REASONS FOR FASTING



- 1 After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat.
- 2 Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Dead Sea. It is already in Hazezon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi). 3 Alarmed, **Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD [YHWH]**, and he **proclaimed a fast** for all Judah. (2 Ch 20:1-3, NIV)



MARK 2:18 REASONS FOR FASTING



14 Then the Spirit of the LORD [YHWH] came on Jahaziel son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly. 15 He said: "Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the LORD [YHWH] says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. (2 Ch 20:14-15, NIV)







David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth on the ground. (2 Sam 12:16, NIV)







"Even now," declares the LORD [YHWH],
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and mourning."

(Joel 2:12, NIV)







On the twenty-fourth day of the same month, the Israelites gathered together, fasting and wearing sackcloth and putting dust on their heads. (Neh 9:1, NIV)







Then they took their bones and buried them under a tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and they fasted seven days. (1 Sam 31:13, NIV)



MARK 2:18 REQUIRED FASTING



29 "This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: On the tenth day of the seventh month you must deny yourselves and not do any work—whether native-born or a foreigner residing among you—30 because on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you. Then, before the LORD [YHWH], you will be clean from all your sins. (Lev 16:29-30, NIV)



MARK 2:18 REQUIRED FASTING



This is what the LORD [YHWH] Almighty says: "The fasts of the fourth, fifth, seventh and tenth months will become joyful and glad occasions and happy festivals for Judah. Therefore love truth and peace." (Zec 8:19, NIV)



MARK 2:18 FASTING PHARISEES



9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: 10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' (Lk 18:9-12, NIV)



MARK 2:18 FASTING PHARISEES



13 "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' 14 "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Lk 18:13-14, NIV)



MARK 2:18 FASTING PHARISEES



16 "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. (Mt 6:16-18, NIV)



MARK 2:18 EASY WAY OUT?



35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" 37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. (Jn 1:35-37, NIV)

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. (Jn 1:40, NIV)

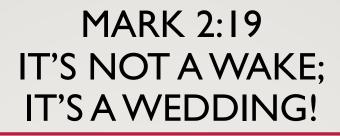


MARK 2:19 WEDDING PARTY



And Jesus said to them, "The wedding party cannot fast while the groom is [still] with them now can they? As long as they have time [where] the groom is with them, they cannot fast." (Mk 2:19, AT)

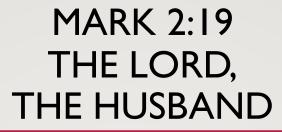






Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom **mourn** while he is with them? (Mt 9:15a, NIV)







3 When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's [YHWH] words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD [YHWH] has said we will do." 4 Moses then wrote down everything the LORD [YHWH] had said. (Ex 24:3-4a, NIV)



MARK 2:19 THE LORD, THE HUSBAND



He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD [YHWH]. 6 Moses took half of the **blood** and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. 7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD [YHWH] has said; we will obey." (Ex 24:4b-7, NIV)



MARK 2:19 THE LORD, THE HUSBAND



Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD [YHWH] has made with you in accordance with all these words." (Ex 24:8, NIV)



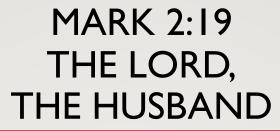
MARK 2:19 THE LORD, THE HUSBAND



For your Maker is your husband—
the LORD [YHWH] Almighty is his name—
the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer;
he is called the God of all the earth.

(Is 54:5, NIV)

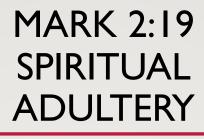






"Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem: "This is what the LORD [YHWH] says: "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the wilderness, through a land not sown. (Jer 2:2, NIV)







"If a man divorces his wife and she leaves him and marries another man, should he return to her again? Would not the land be completely defiled? But you have lived as a prostitute with many lovers—would you now return to me?" declares the LORD [YHWH]. (Jer 3:1, NIV)





6 During the reign of King Josiah, the LORD [YHWH] said to me, "Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? She has gone up on every high hill and under every spreading tree and has committed adultery there. 7 I thought that after she had done all this she would return to me but she did not, and her unfaithful sister Judah saw it. 8 I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery. (Jer 3:6-8, NIV)





9 Because Israel's immorality mattered so little to her, she defiled the land and **committed adultery with stone and wood.** 10 In spite of all this, her **unfaithful** sister Judah did not return to me with all her heart, but only in pretense," declares the LORD [YHWH]. (Jer 3:9-10, NIV)





This is what the LORD [YHWH] says:

"Where is your mother's certificate of divorce with which I sent her away?

Or to which of my creditors did I sell you?

Because of your sins you were sold; because of your transgressions your mother was sent away.

(Is 50:1, NIV)





6" 'Then I passed by and saw you kicking about in your blood, and as you lay there in your blood I said to you, "Live!" 7 I made you grow like a plant of the field. You grew and developed and entered puberty. Your breasts had formed and your hair had grown, yet you were stark naked. 8 "Later I passed by, and when I looked at you and saw that you were old enough for love, I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your naked body. I gave you my solemn oath and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Sovereign LORD [YHWH], and you became mine. (Eze 16:6-8, NIV)





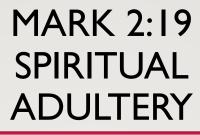
9 "I bathed you with water and washed the blood from you and put ointments on you. 10 I clothed you with an embroidered dress and put sandals of fine leather on you. I dressed you in fine linen and covered you with costly garments. 11 I adorned you with jewelry: I put bracelets on your arms and a necklace around your neck, 12 and I put a ring on your nose, earrings on your ears and a beautiful crown on your head. (Eze 16:9-12, NIV)





13 So you were adorned with gold and silver; your clothes were of fine linen and costly fabric and embroidered cloth. Your food was honey, olive oil and the finest flour. You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen. 14 And your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, because the splendor I had given you made your beauty perfect, declares the Sovereign LORD [YHWH]. (Ezek 16:13-14, NIV)







15 "But you trusted in your beauty and used your fame to become a prostitute. You lavished your favors on anyone who passed by and your beauty became his. 16 You took some of your garments to make gaudy high places, where you carried on your prostitution. You went to him, and he possessed your beauty. (Eze 16:15-16, NIV)





17 You also took the fine jewelry I gave you, the jewelry made of my gold and silver, and you made for yourself male idols and engaged in prostitution with them. 18 And you took your embroidered clothes to put on them, and you offered my oil and incense before them. 19 Also the food I provided for you—the flour, olive oil and honey I gave you to eat—you offered as fragrant incense before them. That is what happened, declares the Sovereign LORD [YHWH]. (Eze 16:17-19, NIV)





20 " 'And you took your sons and daughters whom you bore to me and sacrificed them as food to the idols. Was your prostitution not enough? 21 You slaughtered my children and sacrificed them to the idols. 22 In all your detestable practices and your prostitution you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, kicking about in your blood. (Eze 16:20-22, NIV)





At every street corner you built your lofty shrines and degraded your beauty, **spreading your legs** with increasing **promiscuity** to anyone who passed by. (Eze 16:25, NIV)



MARK 2:19 PROPHESIED RECONCILIATION



11 The LORD [YHWH] said to me, "Faithless Israel is more righteous than unfaithful Judah. 12 Go, proclaim this message toward the north: "Return, faithless Israel," declares the LORD [YHWH], 'I will frown on you no longer, for I am faithful,' declares the LORD [YHWH], 'I will not be angry forever. (Jer 3:11-12, NIV)



MARK 2:19 PROPHESIED RECONCILIATION



13 Only acknowledge your guilt—you have rebelled against the LORD [YHWH] your God, you have scattered your favors to foreign gods under every spreading tree, and have not obeyed me,'" declares the LORD [YHWH]. 14 "Return, faithless people," declares the LORD [YHWH], "for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion. (Jer 3:13-14, NIV)





14 "Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. 15 There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will respond as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of **Egypt.** (Hos 2:14-15, NIV)





16 "In that day," declares the LORD [YHWH], "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master.' 17 I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked. 18 In that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds in the sky and the creatures that move along the ground. Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety. I will betroth you to me forever; (Hos 2:16-18, NIV)





19 I will **betroth** you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. 20 I will **betroth** you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD [YHWH]. (Hos 2:19-20, NIV)





- 6 The LORD [YHWH] will call you back as if you were a wife deserted and distressed in spirit— a wife who married young, only to be rejected," says your God.
- 7 "For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back.
- 8 In a surge of anger
 I hid my face from you for a moment,
 but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you,"
 says the LORD [YHWH] your Redeemer. (Is 54:6-8, NIV)





As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

(Is 62:5, NIV)





31 "The days are coming," declares the LORD [YHWH], "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD [YHWH]. (Jer 31:31-32, NIV)





33 "This is the **covenant** I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD [YHWH]. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD [YHWH],' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD [YHWH]. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." (Jer 31:33-34, NIV)





In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the **new covenant in my blood**; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Cor 11:25, NIV)





22 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. (Eph 5:22-24, NIV)





25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (Eph 5:25-27, NIV)





28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—30 for we are members of his body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." [Gen 2:24] 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. (Eph 5:28-32, NIV)





I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. (2 Cor 11:2, NIV)





28 You yourselves can testify that I said, "I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become greater; I must become less." (Jn 3:28-30, NIV)



MARK 2:19 THE EVERLASTING, MESSIANIC WEDDING BANQUET



At that time the **kingdom of heaven** will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the **bridegroom**.

(Mt 25:1, NIV)

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. (Mt 25:13, NIV)



MARK 2:19 THE EVERLASTING, MESSIANIC WEDDING BANQUET



Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. (Rev 19:7, NIV) I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. (Rev 21:2, NIV)

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the **bride**, the wife of the Lamb. (Rev 21:9, NIV)



MARK 2:19 THE EVERLASTING, MESSIANIC WEDDING BANQUET



The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. (Rev 22:17, NIV)



MARK 2:20 THE TIME TO FAST



But the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken away [ἀπαίρω | apairo from them, and then they will fast on that day. (Mk 2:20, AT)

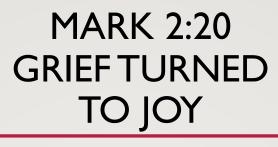


MARK 2:20 GRIEF TURNED TO JOY



20 Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. 21 A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. 22 So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. (Jn 16:20-22, NIV)







a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,

(Ec 3:4, NIV)



MARK 2:20 CAN'T PLEASE EVERYBODY



18 For John came **neither eating nor drinking**, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 The Son of Man came **eating and drinking**, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds." (Mt 11:18-19, NIV)







4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. (Is 53:4-5, NIV)







6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD [YHWH] has laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away [LXX: $\alpha i \rho \omega \mid air \bar{o}$]. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. (Is 53:6-8, NIV)



MARK 2:20 SAVING SACRIFICE



He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. (Mk 8:31, NIV)



MARK 2:20 SAVING SACRIFICE



For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mk 10:45, NIV)