



How can customs cloud Christ out of the church?

*Mark 2:23 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. 24 The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" 25 He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? 26 In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions." 27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."*

What is behind the Pharisees' question?

- *Exodus 20:8 On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.*

What truth is Jesus teaching by his response?

- *True relationship with God is not of special rules and regulations, but of acceptance of the Son of Man, the Lord of the Sabbath, as the one who has fulfilled all things for us. (People's Bible on Mark, p 45)*

## 1. The Church is about \_\_\_\_\_...not \_\_\_\_\_!

- *Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.*
- *Colossians 2:16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. 17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.*
  - a) We are more concerned about conforming people to follow our \_\_\_\_\_ than connecting them to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) We are more concerned about policing people's \_\_\_\_\_ than pointing people to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) We are more concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ good than actually \_\_\_\_\_ good.
  - d) We are more concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ customs of the past than \_\_\_\_\_ Christ to the future.

## 2. Christ is Lord of the \_\_\_\_\_...not \_\_\_\_\_!

What happens when we become "lord of the church"?

What happens when we recognize Jesus as Lord of the church?

- *Ephesians 4:15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

**Email me your thoughts – [pastor@crossandcrowntx.com](mailto:pastor@crossandcrowntx.com)**

Which customs do you think are best suited to point people to Christ?

Which do you feel no longer serve that purpose?