





"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Mark 2:13-16

Followme!

Once again Jesus went out beside the lake.

A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the

sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

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- Matthew/Levi was Jewish
- He was Jewish, but he was also a tax collector
 - He would have been a very unpopular choice for a "religious" leader to select
 - Worked for the hated Roman government
 - Tax Collectors were known to be cheats
 - Morally they were in the same category as a prostitute



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Problem: The friends of Matthew were people that were looked down upon by the religious

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Jesus saw them as childish

Unacceptable!

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you."

Matthew 21:31



"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."





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- That means I could look at this verse and say the religious leaders did not need Jesus because they were already healthy and righteous



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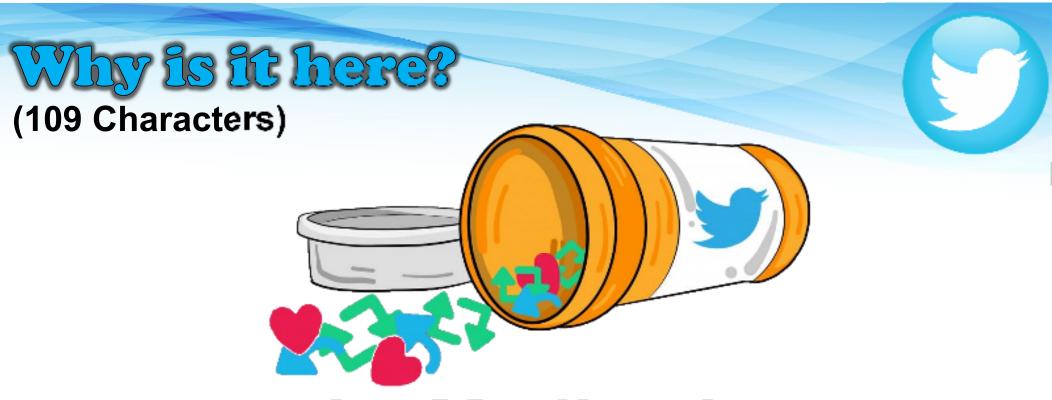
Being Religious does not make you righteous

Being Religious does not make you healthy



When Do You Go to the Doctor?





We take Medication to Mask or Relieve Symptoms



Religion is the masking medication for sin

The other issue we have is Jesus' second connection sinful people are sick



The other issue we have is Jesus' second connection sinful people are sick

Sickness is contagious



The other issue we have is Jesus' second connection sinful people are sick

Sickness is contagious

I don't want to get sick



- The other issue we have is Jesus' second connection sinful people are sick
- Sickness is contagious
- I don't want to get sick
- I should try to avoid those sinful people





We spend so much time trying to identify the sin that we never really talk much about the cure (First Love)





We expect people to get their act together and conform





We want people to see their sin "accept" Christ and then get their own life straight





This is NOT the Jesus Model





Jesus' statement is more that these "sinners" knew they had issues





Their issues were issues they knew they could not solve





Jesus came as the "great physician" not to make them physically healthy, but spiritually well



How do we Apply it?



Never "Good" Enough!

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.



Isaiah 64:6



Unclean Filthy Rags Shriveled Leaf Sin sweeps us away



What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." "Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit." "The poison of vipers is on their lips." "Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness."

"Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know." "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them."

Matthew 15:11



Since we are all sick with the same disease, the church should be the most accepting place on the planet

(James 2:10)

When I apply this verse I understand I have never committed

but reality is because I have done

I am just as guilty





Its the same cure no matter the sin



In doing so we are not trying to teach them how not to be sick (Religion)

We are to preach the cure (Jesus) in hopes they will accept his treatment

