

Luke 11:29-54 Jonah and Judaism

Judaism, the religion of the Jews, had been used by the Scribes and Pharisees to impact every aspect of the Israelites daily lives and culture during the life and Ministry of Messiah. The great exploits of Yeshua the Messiah were well known throughout the land and regions roundabout Israel.

When asked for a sign, Yeshua used Jonah's ministry to Nineveh and Solomon's ministry to the Queen of Sheba, two well-known Biblical and historical stories, as a sign to the people.

In this portion of Luke, Yeshua does not hold back in denouncing and condemning the practices of the Jewish religious leaders during His Ministry and how their generation and those who followed their ways, practices, and traditions would be viewed by YeHoVaH in comparison to the ways, practices, and traditions of their ancestors and the people of history up to this present day.

Judaism is not a word found in the Bible.

The word religion is found five times in the Bible and only in the New Testament.

There are two Greek words for religion in the New Testament.

Religion – **2356 θρησκεία** threskeia {thrace-ki'-ah}

Meaning: 1) religious worship 1a) esp. external, that which consists of ceremonies 1a1) religious discipline, religion

Usage: AV - religion 3, worshipping 1; 4

Jas 1:26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain.

Jas 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world.

This word is also used once for worshipping angels.

Col 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and **worshipping of angels**, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

Paul uses the term the Jew's religion.

Gal 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

Gal 1:14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

Religion – **2454 Ἰουδαϊσμός** loudaismos {ee-oo-dah-is-mos'}

Meaning: 1) the Jewish faith and worship, religion of the Jews, Judaism

Usage: AV - Jews' religion 2; 2

When Paul was in the Jew's religion, Paul was a Pharisee of Pharisees.

Phil 3:4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

Phil 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, **a Pharisee**;

Lk 11:29 And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

Evil – 4190 πονηρός poneros {pon-ay-ros'}

Meaning: 1) full of labours, annoyances, hardships 1a) pressed and harassed by labours 1b) bringing toils, annoyances, perils; of a time full of peril to Christian faith and steadfastness; causing pain and trouble 2) bad, of a bad nature or condition 2a) in a physical sense: diseased or blind 2b) **in an ethical sense: evil wicked, bad**

It is amazing how religious people can be so wicked.

Jonah was a rebellious prophet. What Jonah is famous for is his rebellion against YeHoVaH. The only reason Jonah was in the whale's belly for three days and three nights is because he rebelled against YeHoVaH.

According to Matthew, the resurrection would be the sign.

Mt 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

The only sign for an evil, wicked, and adulterous generation is the story of a rebellious Prophet.

Lk 11:30 For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

Lk 11:31 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon *is* here.

Lk 11:32 The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas *is* here.

The importance of letting your light shine:

Lk 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth *it* in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

Lk 11:34 The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also *is full of darkness*.

Lk 11:35 Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.

Dark Light Perpetrators: False apostles and false ministers.

2Co 11:13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Lk 11:36 If thy whole body therefore *be* full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

Lk 11:37 And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.

Pharisee – **5330 Φαρισαῖος** Pharisaïos {far-is-ah'-yos}

Meaning: 1) A sect that seems to have started **after the Jewish exile**. In addition to OT books the Pharisees recognised in oral tradition a standard of belief and life. They sought for distinction and praise by outward observance of external rites and by outward forms of piety, and such as ceremonial washings, fastings, prayers, and alms giving; and, comparatively negligent of genuine piety, they prided themselves on their fancied good works...

Pharisees did not exist in the Tanakh/Old Testament.

Pharisees came into existence after the Babylonian Captivity.

The Pharisees were looking for ways to trap Yeshua. The dinner invite was a trap. Yeshua willfully entered the trap, not to be trapped, but to expose the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and Scribes.

The Jews' religion that rejects Yeshua as Messiah is a religion of rebellion against YeHoVaH. Christianity that rejects YeHoVaH's Law is a rebellious religion against YeHoVaH.

Any religion that rejects Yeshua as Messiah and YeHoVaH's Law is a rebellious religion against YeHoVaH.

Religious people will reject or ignore your teachings and no sign you give them will ever be enough. Instead, they want you to adhere to what they teach and follow what they do and believe.

Lk 11:38 And when the Pharisee saw *it*, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner.

Lk 11:39 And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness.

Yeshua spoke to the Pharisee as a representative of the Pharisees.

Mk 7:3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash *their* hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.

Mk 7:4 And *when they come* from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables.

Mt 15:7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

Mt 15:8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me.

Mt 15:9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.

Vain – **3155 μάτην** maten {mat'-ane}

Meaning: 1) in vain, fruitlessly

Usage: AV - in vain 2; 2

Judaism that rejects Yeshua as Messiah is vain worship.

Christianity that rejects YeHoVaH's Law is vain worship.

Lk 11:40 Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also?

Fools – **878 ἄφρων** aphron {af'-rone}

Meaning: 1) without reason 2) senseless, foolish, stupid 3) without reflection or intelligence, acting rashly

Usage: AV - fool 8, foolish 2, unwise 1; 11

Anyone who says to me that Yeshua is some created figment of our imagination, or that He did not die for our sins, or is not the Messiah, etc., tells me I am talking to a foolish, unwise person.

Likewise, anyone who say to me that we do not have to keep YeHoVaH's Laws, or that we have fallen from grace if we try to keep the Law, tells me that I am talking to a foolish, unwise person.

Lk 11:41 But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you.

Lk 11:42 But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, **and not to leave the other undone.**

Woe – **3759 οὐαί** ouai {oo-ah'-ee}

Meaning: 1) alas, woe

Usage: AV - woe 41, alas 6; 47

Lk 11:43 Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets.

Lk 11:44 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over *them* are not aware *of them*.

Scribes – **1122 γραμματεύς** grammateus {gram-mat-yooce'}

Meaning: 1) a clerk, scribe, esp. a public servant, secretary, recorder, whose office and influence differed in different states 2) in the Bible, a man learned in the Mosaic law and in the sacred writings, an interpreter, teacher

Lk 11:45 Then answered one of the lawyers, and said unto him, Master, thus saying thou **reproachest** us also.

Lk 11:46 And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.

Lawyers – **3544 νομικός** nomikos {nom-ik-os'}

Meaning: 1) pertaining to the law, one learned in the law 2) in the NT an interpreter and teacher of the Mosaic law

Usage: AV - lawyer 8, about the law 1; 9

Those who were looking for ways to trap Yeshua, so they could have him killed, expected Yeshua to be nice and respectful toward them.

Lk 11:47 Woe unto you! for ye build the sepulchres of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.

Sepulchres – **3419 μνημείον** mnemeion {mney-mi'-on}

Meaning: 1) any visible object for preserving or recalling the memory of any person or thing 1a) a memorial, monument, specifically, a sepulchral monument 2) a sepulchre, a tomb

Usage: AV - sepulchre 29, grave 8, tomb 5; 42

Lk 11:48 Truly ye bear witness that ye allow the deeds of your fathers: for they indeed killed them, and ye build their sepulchres.

Lk 11:49 Therefore also said the wisdom of God, **I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute:**

Lk 11:50 That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation;

Lk 11:51 From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

Zacharias – **2197 Ζαχαρίας** Zacharias {dzakh-ar-ee'-as}

Meaning: Zacharias meaning "remembered of Jehovah" 1) the father of John the Baptist 2) son of Barachias, who was slain by the Jews between the altar and the temple

Usage: AV - Zacharias 11; 11

2Ch 24:20 And the spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you.

2Ch 24:21 And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD.

Lk 11:52 Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.

Lk 11:53 And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to urge *him* vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things:

Lk 11:54 Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, **that they might accuse him.**

I want to leave you with **wisdom from the Proverbs.**

Pr 6:16 These six *things* doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him:

Pr 6:17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

Pr 6:18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

Pr 6:19 A false witness *that* speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Pr 6:20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

Pr 6:21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, *and* tie them about thy neck.

Pr 6:22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and *when* thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

Pr 6:23 For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life: