

Mark Session 15
Ritual and Reality
Chapter 7

II. Reality

A. Total _____: We are, as a result of the fall, naturally inclined towards sin and unable to know and worship God on our own.

• **Jeremiah 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

• **Hebrews 12:14** Without holiness no one will see the Lord.

B. _____: God declaring me righteous through faith alone in Christ's atoning sacrifice, apart from my own efforts.

C. _____: the process by which my life is changed and conformed to God's righteousness.

• **Romans 8:5** Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

• **John 7:38** Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

1. Jesus was profoundly _____.

2. Jesus _____ people because religion couldn't.

I. Empty Traditions

A. The "traditions of the elders" was a set of rules and codes known known as the _____.

B. Opinion and perspective are no substitute for _____.

C. **Dogma**—beliefs that are _____ and _____.

- God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Falleness of humanity
- The Crucifixion and Resurrection as the only hope of humanity
- The Return of Christ
- etc. etc.

D. *Qurban* money you didn't have to share because it was technically devoted to God.

E. Rituals and habits can become an easy way to avoid _____.