

“Moral **Religion** or Spiritual **Relationship**?”

Matthew 12:43-50

Scripture reading: Matthew 12:43-50 “When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. <sup>44</sup> Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. <sup>45</sup> Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation. <sup>46</sup> While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. <sup>47</sup> Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. <sup>48</sup> But he answered and said unto him that told him, **Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?** <sup>49</sup> And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, **Behold my mother and my brethren!** <sup>50</sup> **For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.”**

Message Title: “Moral **Religion** or Spiritual **Relationship**?”

1. The Degeneracy of Moral **Religion** (vs 43-45)

Ephesians 3:17 “That Christ may **dwell** in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love”

2. The Restoration of Spiritual **Relationship** (vs 46-50)

Matthew 13:1 “The same day went Jesus out of the **house**, and sat by the sea side.”

Mark 3:21 “And when his friends heard *of it*, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself.”

John 6:29 “Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**”

Matthew 21:32 “**For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen *it*, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.**”

Psalm 143:10 “Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; **lead** me into the land of uprightness.”

1 Thessalonians 4:3 “For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:”

1 Thessalonians 5:18 “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

1 Peter 2:15 “For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:”

Romans 12:2 “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Matthew 12:50 “For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

3. The Contrasting **Application**