

### **Weighing Men Down with Rules, Regulations, and Unnecessary Burdens**

Luke 11:46

<sup>46</sup> But He said, “Woe to you lawyers as well! For you weigh men down with burdens hard to bear, while you yourselves will not even touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

Cross References:

Matt 23:4 - They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men’s shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling...

Luke 11:52

<sup>52</sup> Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who were entering.”

Matt 23:13: <sup>13</sup> “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

Mark 7:1-4

#### **Followers of Tradition**

7 The Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with impure hands, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, *thus* observing the traditions of the elders; <sup>4</sup> and *when they come* from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.)

Reflection:

This last passage clarifies what is going on here: The ruler’s hearts are far from God, so they try to over regulate. Mark 7:8 – “Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men”

### **Can't pour new wine into old wineskins**

<sup>14</sup> Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

<sup>15</sup> Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

#### **NASB Commentary:**

In ancient times goatskins were used to hold wine. As the fresh grape juice fermented, the wine would expand, and the new wineskin would stretch. But a used skin, already stretched, would break. Jesus brings a newness that cannot be confined within the old forms.

#### **Observation:**

The old skins will not hold the new wine without breaking. In other words, old systems will not old new ways of operating. See the book listed below, "The Complete Wineskin" to understand how this concept is affecting the church today.

#### **Book: The Complete Wineskin**

[http://www.amazon.com/COMPLETE-WINESKIN-Eberle-Harold-Paperback/dp/B00IFGD6NO/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1451021480&sr=1-3&keywords=The+Complete+Wineskin](http://www.amazon.com/COMPLETE-WINESKIN-Eberle-Harold-Paperback/dp/B00IFGD6NO/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1451021480&sr=1-3&keywords=The+Complete+Wineskin)