

PHARISEES AND SCRIBES

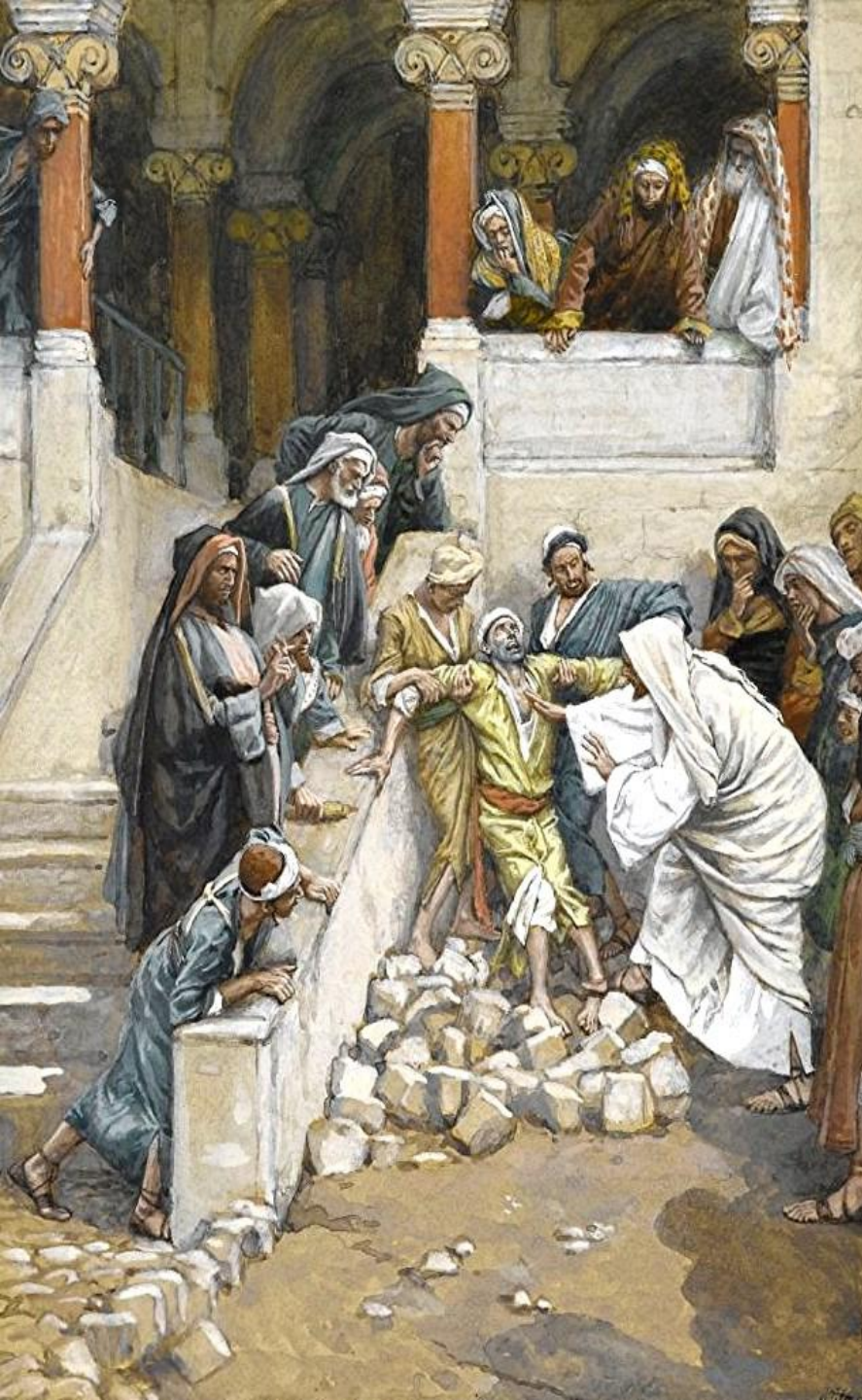
- A polarization is growing between Christ and the Synagogue leadership
- Nearly all Scribes were also Pharisees
- Josephus identified 7 branches of the Pharisees
- Yeshua does not condemn the Synagogue, or all Scribes and Pharisees



MATTHEW EDITORIALIZES



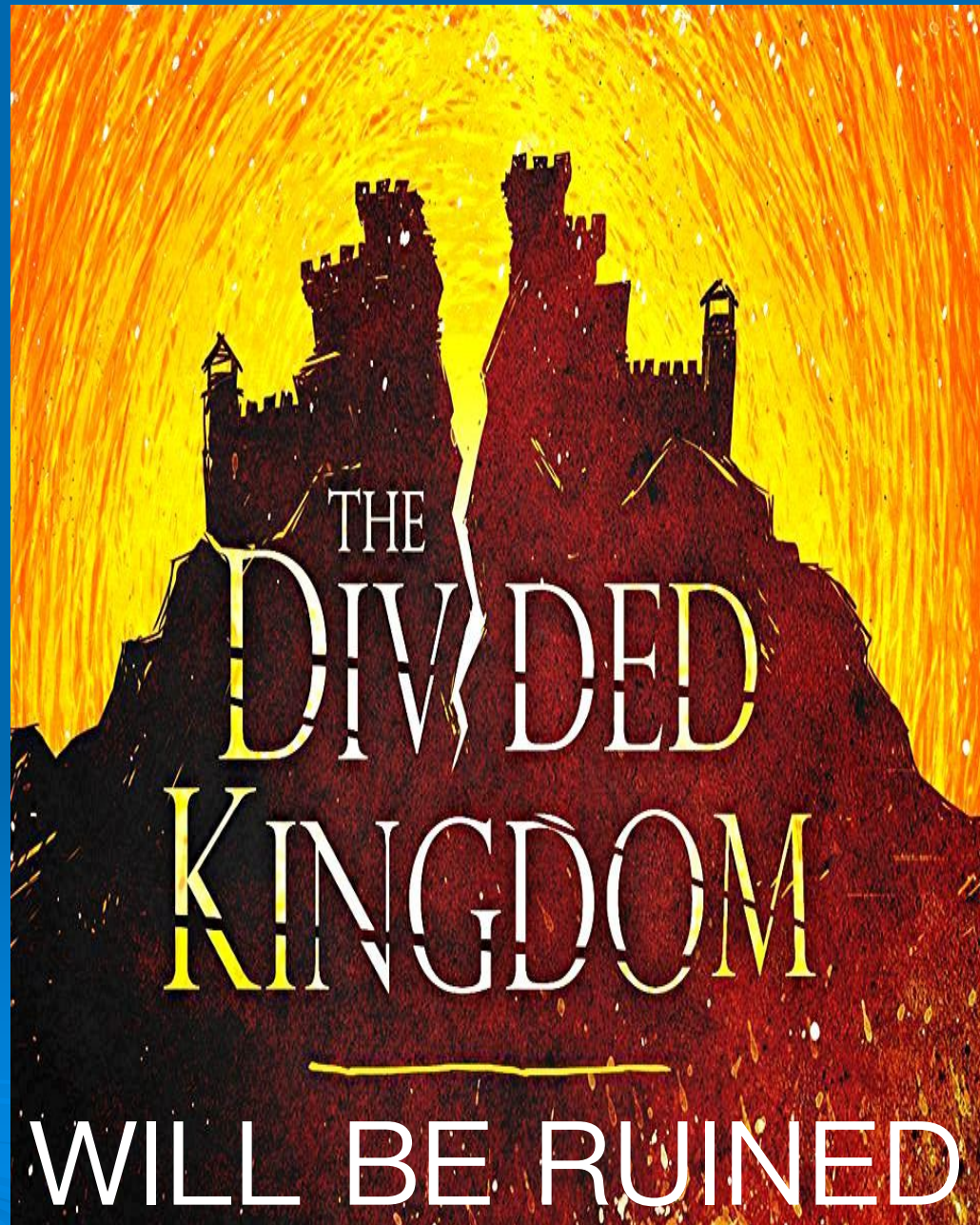
- The common connection among all Pharisees was their devotion to Jewish Law
- Matt. 12:18 – 21 identify Isaiah's Suffering Servant with "God's Servant"
- No evidence that Yeshua spoke those words
- Vss. 18 – 21 are taken from Isaiah 42:1 - 4
- Vss. 18 – 21 are Matthew's own conclusion
- Not found in the other Gospel accounts



“Could this be the son of David?”

- Man was deaf/mute due to demon possession
- Pharisees saw Yeshua as a threat to their authority
- Son of David was Solomon
- So Son of David meant having the “spirit of Solomon”
- Pharisees accuse Jesus of getting His healing powers from *Ba'al Zebbul* (Satan)
- Yeshua exposes the absurdity of such a claim

- ***Kardia*** = heart
- Belief was that rational thinking took place in the heart organ
- The Pharisees didn't actually believe their accusation was true
- Christ's response was not to correct the Pharisees, rather to neutralize their illogical remarks
- If Satan drove out Satan it would be to his own ruination



SATAN'S KINGDOM



- The Kingdom of Heaven was birthed within Satan's Kingdom
- We are in an all-out war
- No middle ground
- Matt. 24:13, Rev.2:10
- The outcome is pre-determined. God wins!
- Even if our experiences on Earth seem like defeats, in the end there is only victory for us
- Yeshua confirms that the Pharisees have performed successful exorcisms

BINDING THE STRONGMAN

- Vs. 27 *“So they shall be your judges”*
- Should be taken in the context of Judgment Day
- When Christ (not others) drives out demons, it is the proof that the Kingdom of God has come
- Yeshua has already begun the attack on the Strongman (Satan)



- Matt. 12:30 *“Those who aren’t with Me, are against Me....”*
- Another way of saying *“no man can be a slave to 2 masters....”*
- We cannot have favor with God and evil
- We are, and will be, bound to the Law of Moses because it cannot be separated from salvation in Christ
- Salvation is only possible in the true, real historical Jesus; not in a caricature of Him



I NEVER KNEW YOU !!

Jesus our LORD

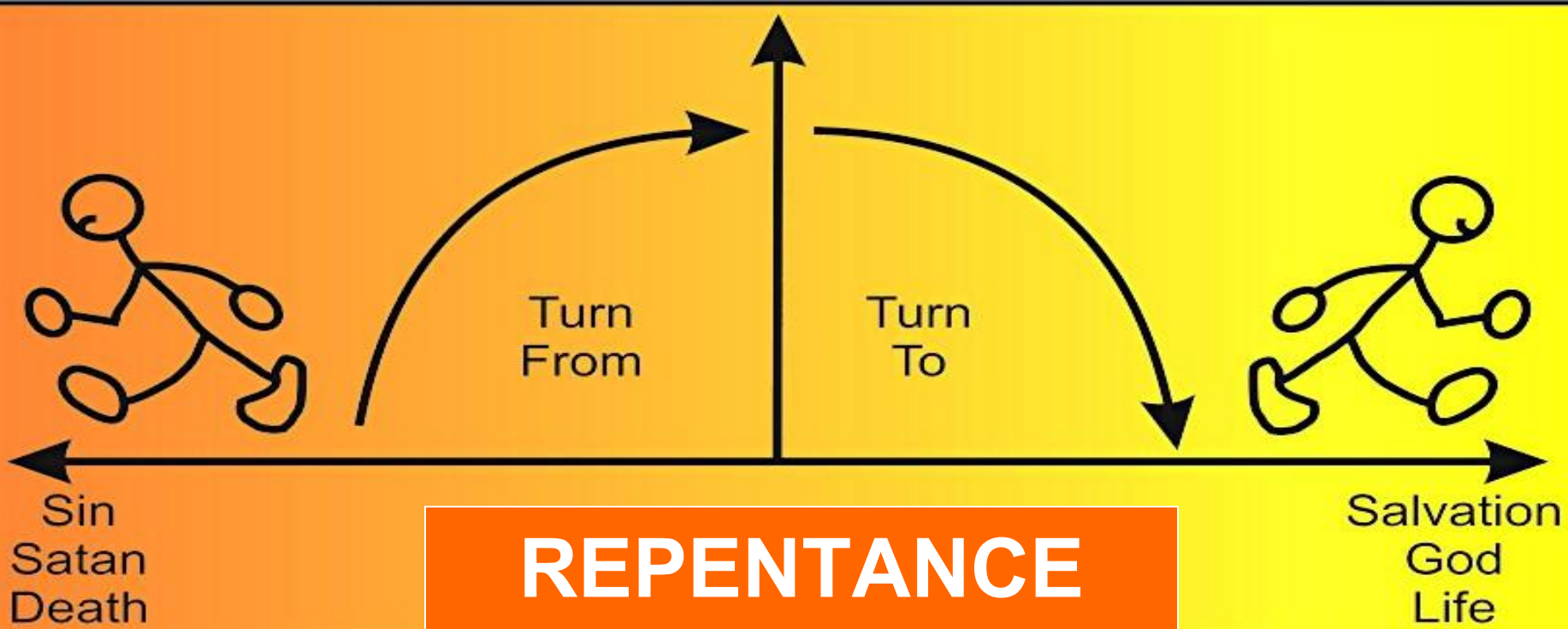


- **P'shat:** to not trust Jesus is to be against Him
- **Remez:** calling on His name is not proof of being with Him Matthew 7:21 – 23
- Explains how to sort out true Believers from false ones
- It is according to their fruit
- We must be “with” Yeshua by being in tune with who He actually is and what He taught in its context



Blaspheming the Holy Spirit

- Vs. 31 “People can be forgiven any sin and blasphemy” is probably directed at the Pharisees
- Sins are divided into the forgivable and not forgivable
- Not forgivable sins sometimes called high-handed
- Unintentional versus Intentional does NOT mean accidental versus on-purpose
- Biblically, sins are structured on their seriousness



- With Christ, there is no human vs. human sin that cannot be forgiven with trust in Him, and sincere repentance
- There is a fine line between forgivable sins and unforgivable blasphemies
- When does slander of Christ become slander of the Holy Spirit?
- No one is accidentally saved, and no one accidentally loses their salvation

... a Bad Tree Cannot Bear Good Fruit...

- Jesus



- Yeshua uses indisputable logic that common Jewish folks would understand
- The Creator made both the physical and spiritual realms, so they operate under the same principles
- Christ has no patience with Jewish religious leadership that is more interested in personal reputation than in teaching God's Word in truth