







**Today's Sermon: "Am I a Legalist?"**  
**Passage: Isaiah 29:11-13, Mark 7:1-13**

# 1. Context in Isaiah

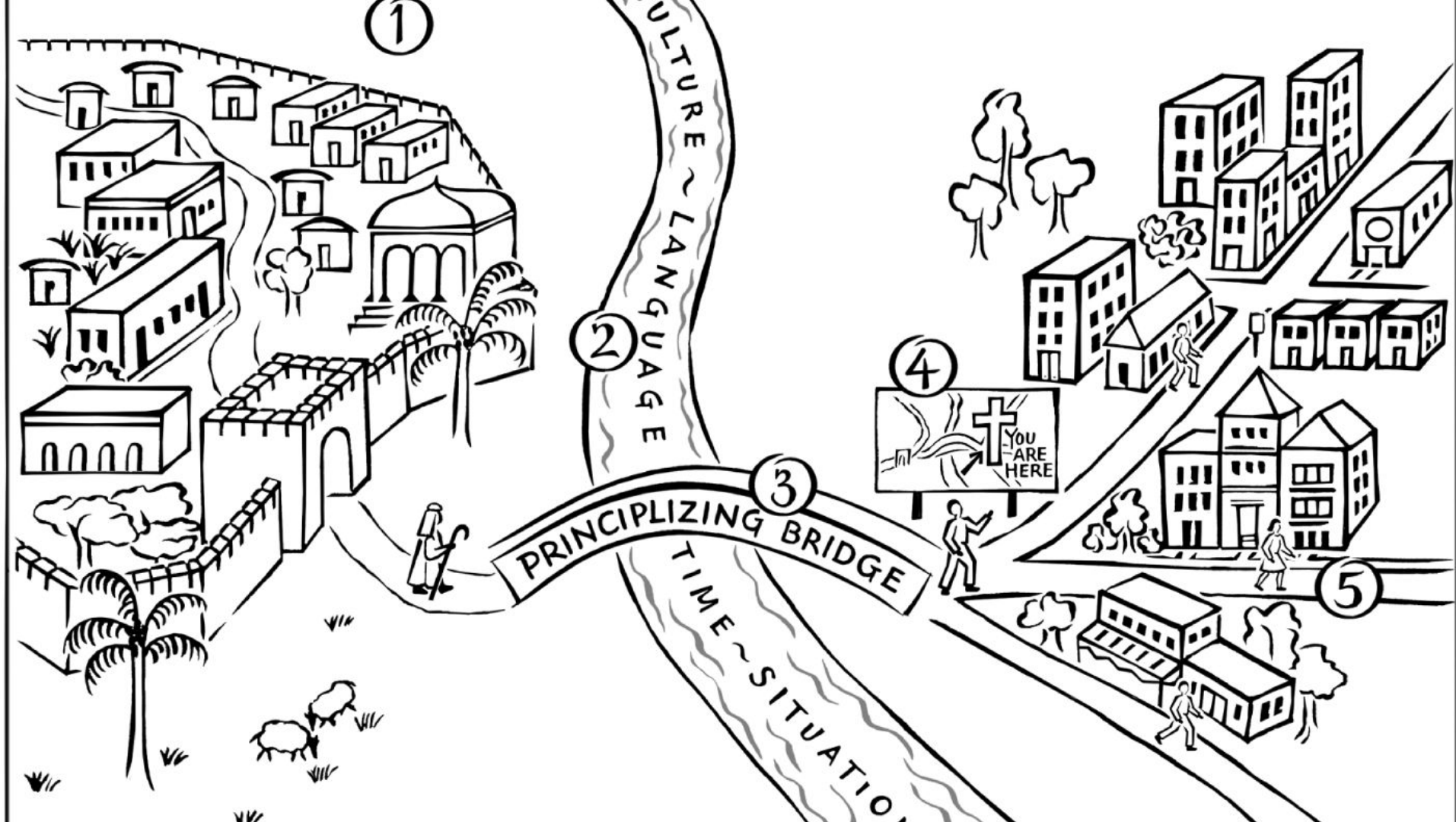
## Isaiah 29:11-13

<sup>11</sup> For you this whole vision is nothing but words sealed in a scroll. And if you give the scroll to someone who can read, and say, “Read this, please,” they will answer, “I can’t; it is sealed.” <sup>12</sup> Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say, “Read this, please,” they will answer, “I don’t know how to read.”

<sup>13</sup> The Lord says:

“These people come near to me with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.

Their worship of me  
is based on merely human rules they have been taught.”



- 1. Context in Isaiah**
- 2. Context in Mark**



## Mark 7:1-13

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

1. Context in Isaiah
2. Context in Mark
3. Hypocrites

## Mark 7:1-13

<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“ ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’

1. Context in Isaiah
2. Context in Mark
3. Hypocrites
4. What God says

## Mark 7:1-13

<sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

<sup>9</sup> And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’

1. Context in Isaiah
2. Context in Mark
3. Hypocrites
4. What God says
5. What you say

## Mark 7:1-13

<sup>11</sup> But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God) – <sup>12</sup> then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. <sup>13</sup> Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

- 1. Context in Isaiah**
- 2. Context in Mark**
- 3. Hypocrites**
- 4. What God says**
- 5. What you say**
- 6. What we do**



In what ways do you nullify the word of God  
by your traditions?

# 3 Types of Legalism

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## 1. Justification by Works

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2. Adding to the Law

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We usually end up pretending, or performing

- 1. Context in Isaiah**
- 2. Context in Mark**
- 3. Hypocrites**
- 4. What God says**
- 5. What you say**
- 6. What we do**
- 7. What the answer is**



What is the look on God's face when he thinks  
of you?

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of you?

The gospel of Jesus allows us to see our sin  
disguised as legalism/rule following and want  
to run to the freedom of Jesus – because "I'm  
OK in Jesus!"

# Gospel Application

You are free, so be free indeed!