



**MARK: THE SERVANT KING  
LEGALISM OR LIFE**

Mark 2:23-3:6

February 8, 2026

**BIG IDEA:** Legalism misses the heart of God.

**LEGALISM MAKES RULES MORE IMPORTANT THAN PEOPLE (vv. 2:23-26)**

When rules become more important than people, we've strayed from the heart of God.

Scriptures without mercy lead to a misunderstanding of the heart of God.

**LEGALISM DISTORTS GOD'S DESIGN (vv. 2:27-28)**

God's laws were meant to bring freedom, not hinder it.

Legalism resists the idea of submission to Jesus Christ.

**LEGALISM HARDENS THE HEART (vv. 3:1-5)**

A hardened heart will often prize being correct over being compassionate.

A calloused heart will often ignore suffering, which is an indicator of spiritual blindness.

**LEGALISM OPPOSES THE WORK OF GOD (v. 3:6)**

Religion without grace can lead to destructive living.

Refusing Jesus Christ can lead to spiritual decay.

**Scripture Verses (ESV):** Mark 2:23-3:6, Colossians 2:20-23, 1 Timothy 4:1-3, Romans 2:5, Galatians 2:21