

Jesus Confronts Jewish Traditions

Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23; John 7:1

The Jewish leadership in Jerusalem had challenged Jesus, and now Pharisees and Scribes traveled 80 miles north to Galilee. They came to spy and criticize Christ's ministry and teaching. The opposition would increase in frequency and intensity during His final year.

I. The Accusation

“Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from _____.
²And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashed, hands, they found fault. ³For the Pharisees, and _____ the Jews, except they wash their hands oft (Gk - _____), eat not, holding the _____ of the elders. ⁴And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables. ⁵Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the _____ of the elders, but (“transgress the _____ of the elders” Matthew 15:1) eat bread with unwashed hands?” Mark 7:1-5

“Pharisees, and certain of the scribes,” -

“traditions of the elders” –

“eat bread with unwashed hands?” –

II. The Condemnation

“He answered and said unto them, Well hath Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites (Gk - _____), as it is written, This people _____ me with their lips, but their _____ is far from me. ⁷Howbeit in _____ do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the _____ of men.⁸ For _____ aside the commandment of God, ye _____ the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and _____ other such like things ye do. ⁹And he said unto them, (“Why do ye also _____ the commandment of God by your tradition?” Matthew 15:2) Full well ye _____ the commandment of God, that ye may _____ your own tradition.” Mark 7:6-9

Lips honor God vs. Heart far from God –

Worship me vs. Teach the doctrines of men –

Lay aside/Transgress/Reject the God's commandment vs. Hold/Keep the traditions of men –

“For (“God commanded,” Matthew 15:4) Moses said, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: ¹¹ But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. ¹² And (“honor not his father or his mother,” Matthew 15:6) ye suffer (Lit. - _____) him no more to do ought (Lit. - _____) for his father or his mother; ¹³ (“Thus” Matthew 15:6) Making the word of God of none effect (Lit. - _____) through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.” Mark 7:10-13

God's commandment - “Honor thy father and thy mother;” –

Man's Tradition – “Corban” –

“Making the word of God of none effect” –

“many such like things do ye.” –

III. The Declaration

“And when he had called all the people (“multitude” Matthew 15:10) unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is _____ from without a man, that entering (“the mouth” Matthew 15:11) into him can defile him: but the things which _____ of him (“the mouth” Matthew 15:11), those are they that defile the man. ¹⁶ If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.” Mark 7:14-16

True Defilement - Into man vs. Out of man –

IV. The Explanation

“And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples (“said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended (Lit. - _____), after they heard this saying? ¹³ But he answered and said, Every plant (Lit. - _____), which my heavenly Father hath not

planted, shall be rooted up. ¹⁴ Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. ¹⁵ Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare (Gk - _____) unto us this parable (Gk - _____).” Matthew 15:12-15) asked him concerning the parable. ¹⁸ And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth (“into the mouth” Matthew 15:18) into the man, it cannot defile him; ¹⁹ Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?” Mark 7:16-19

“Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended” –

“Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.” –

“Declare unto us this parable” –

“And he said, That which cometh out (“proceed out of the _____ come forth from the _____;” Matthew 15:18) of the man, that defileth (Gk - _____) the man. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, ²² Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness (“false witness” Matthew 15:19): ²³ All these _____ things come from _____, and defile the man (“but to eat with _____ hands defileth not a man.” Matthew 15:20).” Mark 7:20-23

The sinful nature of man –

Believers Application:

1. Let’s talk about “honor thy father and mother.”

2. Let’s talk about “traditions of man” that can be part of our 21st-century churches. Using the Bible as the standard, how do we check that our “traditions” have not become yearly activities more than tools to do God’s work?

Define God’s work:

2. Let’s do a personal “Hypocrite” check:

- Do we pay more attention to _____ than character?

- Do we follow religious practices while allowing our hearts to be _____ from God?
- Do we emphasize our spiritual strengths and accomplishments and other's _____ and weakness?
- Do we seek to do things for God in the _____ but do very little for God in _____?

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