



Clean Heart

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Mark 7:1-23

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Introduction



Introduction





I. FOCUS ON SCRIPTURE, NOT TRADITION (vs.1-13)



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- Focus on what God has to say, not what others have to say.



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Mark 7:1-5, “The Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem, and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with impure hands, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the traditions of the elders; and when they come from the market place, they



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*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.) The Pharisees and the scribes *asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?”*



I. FOCUS ON SCRIPTURE, NOT TRADITION (vs.1-13)

Mark 7:6-8, “And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’ Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.

II. FOCUS ON CLEAN HEART, NOT ON CLEAN HANDS (vs.14-23)





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Mark 7:14-23, “After He called the crowd to Him again, He began saying to them, “Listen to Me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside the man which can defile him if it goes into him; but the things which proceed out of the man are what defile the man.” ...“All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”



II. FOCUS ON CLEAN HEART, NOT ON CLEAN HANDS (vs.14-23)

- A person is NOT defiled morally by what he eats even if his hands are not washed. On the other hand, a person IS defiled morally by what he thinks in his heart.



II. FOCUS ON CLEAN HEART, NOT ON CLEAN HANDS (vs.14-23)

- Vs. 21, “*evil thoughts*” is listed first, because all the other evils are the result of evil thoughts: Sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly, none of these evils arise from external forces.



II. FOCUS ON CLEAN HEART, NOT ON CLEAN HANDS (vs.14-23)

- *“The heart is deceitful above all things
and beyond cure. Who can
understand it?”* Jeremiah 17:10

Conclusion

