



Hypocritical worship!

Matthew 14:34-15:20

**What is
“Hypocritical Worship?”**

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³⁴ And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick ³⁶ and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

¹Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, ² “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.” ³ He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴ For God commanded, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ⁵ But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or his mother, “What you would have gained from me is given to God,” ⁶ he need not honor his father.’ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. ⁷ You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said:

⁸ ““This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;

⁹ in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.””

¹⁰ And he called the people to him and said to them, “Hear and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person.”

¹² Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?” ¹³

He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.”

¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain the parable to us.” ¹⁶ And he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.”

Isaiah 1:13-17

¹³ Bring no more vain offerings;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—
I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts
my soul hates;
they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,

¹⁷ learn to do good;
seek justice,
correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow's cause.

Amos 5:21-24

²¹ “I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Traditions of the Elders

Talmud – Jewish traditions

“God gave the oral law to Moses and then Moses passes it on to great men of Israel”

- a. Deliberate on it and apply it.
- b. Train other disciples.
- c. Build a wall around the Law in order to protect it.

John 4:24

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

James 1:27

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Deuteronomy 10:12-16

¹² “And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul,¹³ and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?¹⁴ Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it.¹⁵ Yet the Lord set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day.¹⁶ *Circumcise therefore your heart,* and be no longer stubborn.

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