

Sermon Notes

11-19-23 - Wk8 - #Jesusisthesubject - From the Inside Out - Mark 7:1-23

7 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus

2 and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, ceremonially unwashed.

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The ISSUE: outer conformity without inner transformation.

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28 In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. Matthew 23:28

3 (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders.

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Fence laws: rules to keep you far from God's Law, so as to not break God's Law.

4 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.)

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25 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.

26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. Matthew 23:25-26

5 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 (unclean) hands?”

6 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.

7 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’

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It's not about the strictness of your HABITS. It's about the state or condition of your HEART.

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

9 And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!

13 Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

15 Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them (make unclean). Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.”

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Jesus agreed with the Pharisees that people were "unclean," but disagreed with the source of it.

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6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. Isaiah 64:6

17 After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable.

18 "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them?

19 For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)

20 He went on: "What comes out of a person is what defiles them.

21 For it is from within, out of a person's heart,

that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder,

22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

23 All these evils come from inside and defile a person (make them unclean)."

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It's not the "outside--in," but from the "inside--out!"

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6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. Phil. 3:6

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8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. Phil. 3:8-9

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3 Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

4 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Rom. 10:3-4

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The unclean or defiled (all of us) would not be made clean by washed hands, but by the pierced hands of Christ.

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**We are to be transformed
from the inside out!**