

Three Principles for Understanding God's Heart for His Children

Key Texts: Mark 7:1-23; Matthew 15:1-20

I Samuel 16:1-12 (7); Jeremiah 17:9; Acts 9; Psalm 111:1; Ex. 20:12, Deut. 5:26; Exodus 21:17;
Leviticus 20; Proverbs 20:20

1. The Context: Mark 7:1-5; Matthew 15:1-2

Background: Jesus Encounters Religious Leaders and His Accusers

Religious Leaders and their Motivation

The Big Question – Concern for the Law or Tradition?

“Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?”

PRINCIPLE 1: There's a difference between religion and relationship

2. The Challenge: Jesus Response: Mark 7:6-13; Matthew 15:3-9

Answer to the Big Question – A Rhetorical Question

“Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?”

Prophetic Revelation and Instruction

PRINCIPLE 2: The Word of God reveals how we should live and expose truth

3. The Clarification: Jesus Reveals Truth: Mark 7: 14-23; Matthew 15:10-20

Truth to the Multitude: Lives are defiled by what comes out of the heart not what goes in the mouth

Truth to the Disciples: The heart is the place for Spiritual activity; Food is for the stomach and processed natural activity

PRINCIPLE #3: The revelation of our commitment God is through a transformed heart not legalistic behaviors (traditions) and rituals