

JESUS REBUKES THE TRADITIONAL JEWS' HYPOCRISY

Matthew 15:1-28

Key Verses: 15:10,11

"Jesus called the crowd to him and said, `Listen and understand. What goes into a man's mouth does not make him "unclean," but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him "unclean."'"

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Read verses 1-9. For what did the religious leaders criticize Jesus' disciples? Why? What good purpose is served by tradition?
2. Why did Jesus rebuke the religious leaders? How did they nullify the word of God? When does tradition become a hindrance to a life that pleases God?
3. Read verses 10-14. How is Jesus' view of clean and unclean different from that of the Pharisees? (11) Why did Jesus not worry about offending the Pharisees? (12-14)
4. Read verses 15-20. What makes people unclean? What does this mean to us practically?
5. Read verses 21-28. Why did the Gentile woman come? How did she address Jesus? How and why did Jesus challenge her? How did she respond? How did Jesus bless her? How was she different from the Pharisees?