

THE BOOK OF MARK

# UNEXPECTED

KINGDOM

<sup>1</sup> The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> 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.) ...

Mark 7:1-5 (NIV 2011)

<sup>5</sup> 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 hands?”

Mark 7:1-5 (NIV 2011)

<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' <sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

Mark 7:6-8 (NIV 2011)

<sup>9</sup> And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother, and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’ <sup>11</sup> But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)— <sup>12</sup> then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother.

...

Mark 7:9-13 (NIV 2011)

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

Mark 7:9-13 (NIV 2011)







<sup>14</sup> Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, *“Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.”* <sup>17</sup> After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. <sup>18</sup> *“Are you so dull?”* he asked. *“Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? ...*

Mark 7:14-19 (NIV 2011)

<sup>19</sup> *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.)

Mark 7:14-19 (NIV 2011)

Above all else, guard your heart,  
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV 2011)

<sup>20</sup> He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

Mark 7:20-23 (NIV 2011)

The heart is deceitful above all things  
and beyond cure.  
Who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV 2011)

<sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 36:25-27 (NIV 2011)