

Introduction



- Jesus will address 3 groups:
 - Pharisees
 - The crowd and His disciples
 - A Gentile

 <u>Central Theme</u>: Our approach to the Law, Moral Purity and Jesus himself should be determined by an understanding of our own Heart.

I. Jesus Reveals the Threat of Straying from God's Laws (vv. 1 - 13)

A. Elevating Man's Laws results in Neglecting God's Laws (vv. 1-8)

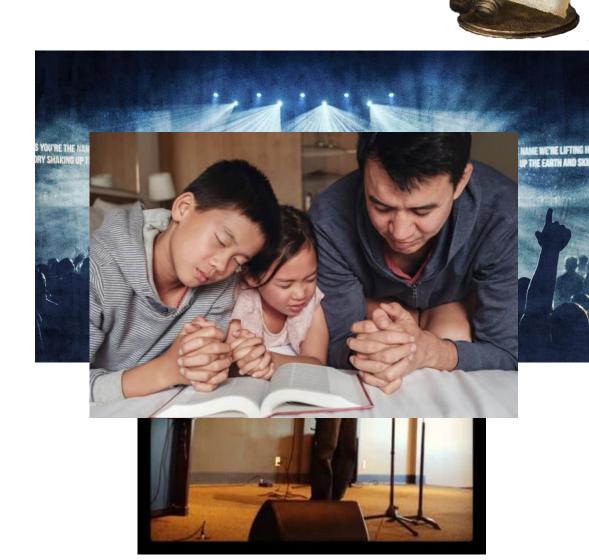
- 1. The Pharisees Misplaced Focus
- 2. The Nature of the Tradition of the Elders
- Jesus Rebukes the Pharisees' Focus
- B. Neglecting God's Laws results in Rejecting God's Laws (vv. 9-13)
 - 1. A Practiced Rejection of God's Law
 - 2. A Pointed Example



I. Jesus Reveals the Threat of Straying from God's Laws (vv. 1 - 13)

Application:

- ➤ We are often more like the Pharisees than we'd like to think
- ➤ In what areas have we minimized the preeminence of God's law for our own substitute, even if it was well-intentioned?



II. Jesus Connects the Heart and Purity (vv. 14 - 23)



A. Jesus Instructs the People

Not what goes IN, but what comes OUT of you that defiles you!

B. Jesus Illuminates the Disciples

Your heart determines what comes OUT, and it's a fountain of wickedness!

Application:

➤ Do you consider your own natural heart (mind, will, emotions) to be wicked?

III. Jesus Illustrates the Priority/Sufficiency of His Mission (vv. 24-30)

A. An Unusual Encounter

- 1. A Humble Approach
- 2. A Desperate Need
- 3. A Persistent Request

- B. An Unusual Illustration
- C. An Extremely Insightful Response



III. Jesus Illustrates the Priority/Sufficiency of His Mission (vv. 24-30)

Application:

- ➤ We need to approach Jesus like the Gentile woman!
- ➤ When we do, we can receive a clean heart from a Gracious God, by the Blood of Jesus Christ!

