

**Romans 3:10** “As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one.”

**Ephesians 2:8** “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – <sup>[9]</sup> Not of works, so that no one can boast.”

## **B. We are sanctified through the powerful work of the Holy Spirit.**

**Hebrews 10:14** “Because by one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.”

**Philippians 1:6** “Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

**Romans 8:29** “For those He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His son, that He might be the firstborn among brothers.”

**2 Timothy 3:16** “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, correcting, and training in righteousness, <sup>[17]</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

## **Rules of Men! Mark 7:1-20 Lesson #26 1/25/26**

**I Samuel 16:7** “But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider His appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

### **I. The Pharisees were angry with the Lord’s disciples.**

#### **A. They accused the disciples of breaking their traditions.**

**\*\*Mark 7:1** “The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus.”

**\*\*Mark 7:2** “And saw some of his disciple’s eating food with hands that were “unclean,” that is, unwashed.”

**\*\*Mark 7:3** “(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders.”

**\*\*Mark 7:4** “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.)”

**Colossians 2:21** “Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch! <sup>[22]</sup> These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. <sup>[23]</sup> Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.”

#### **B. The Pharisees asked Jesus why they disobeyed their traditions.**

**\*\*Mark 7:5** “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 ‘unclean’ hands?”

### **II. The Lord assessed the spiritual problems of the Pharisees.**

## A. The Pharisees and Scribes were hypocrites.

**\*\*Mark 7:6a** “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.”

## B. They offered heartless worship.

**\*\*Mark 7:7a** “They worship me in vain; ....”

## C. They replaced God’s Word with human traditions.

**\*\*Mark 7:7b** “... their teachings are but rules taught by men.”

**\*\*Mark 7:8** “You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

**\*\*Mark 7:9** “And he said to them: “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!”

## III. The Lord addressed a major area they ignored.

### A. Jesus reminded them about honoring their parents.

**\*\*Mark 7:10** “For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’

**Exodus 20:12** “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.”

**Exodus 21:17** “Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.”

### B. Jesus reprimanded them for dishonoring their parents.

**\*\*Mark 7:11** “But you say if a man says to his father or mother: ‘Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban’ (that is, a gift devoted to God),”

**\*\*Mark 7:12** “Then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother.”

**\*\*Mark 7:13** “Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

## IV. The Lord articulated what was truly unclean.

### A. The food we eat with unwashed hands is not unclean.

**\*\*Mark 7:14** “Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.”

**\*\*Mark 7:15** “Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him ‘unclean.’”

**\*\*Mark 7:16** “If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**\*\*Mark 7:17** “After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable.”

### B. The filth displayed by one’s life is unclean.

**\*\*Mark 7:18** “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can make him ‘unclean’?”

**\*\*Mark 7:19** “For it doesn’t go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)”

**\*\*Mark 7:20** “He went on: “What comes out of a man is what makes him ‘unclean.’”

**\*\*Mark 7:21** “For it is from within, out of a man’s heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery.”

**\*\*Mark 7:22** “Greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.”

**\*\*Mark 7:23** “All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

## How can we apply this lesson to our life?

### A. We are saved by faith in Jesus Christ.

**Isaiah 64:6** “All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.”