

March

Matthew

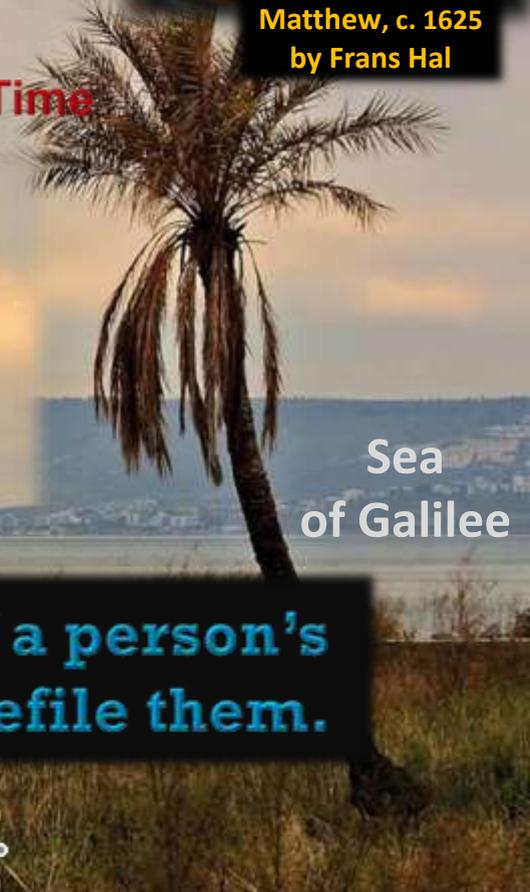
- 14 Courage—John Beheaded & Jesus Walks on Water
- 15 Devotion—What **DEFILES**, Canaanite Woman & Feed 4,000
- 16 Jesus—Peter Declares “You Are the Messiah” - **1st Time**
- 17 Glory—Transfiguration & Heals Demon Possessed Boy - **2nd Time**
- 18 Forgiveness—Greatest in Kingdom & Parables of Wandering Sheep & Unmerciful Servant
- 28 Resurrection Commission—Happy Easter
- 19 Eternal Life—Divorce, Children, Rich & Kingdom
- 20 Grace—Parables Workers & Vinyard & 2 Blind Men SEE - **3rd Time**
- 21 Authority—Jesus’ Triumphal Entry & Temple Parables of Two Sons & of the Tenants
- 22-23 Honor—Parable of Marriage Banquet – Greatest Commands
- 24 Alert—Temple Destruction & **NO ONE** Knows the HOUR
- 25 Active Faith—Parables of Virgins, Bag of Gold, Sheep & Goats
- 26 Atonement—Last Supper & Jesus’ Arrest
- 27 Our Savior—Betrayal & Crucifixion

Jesus
Predicts
His Death



Matthew, c. 1625
by Frans Hal

Christ in the Storm on the
Lake of Galilee, 1633
Rembrandt (1606-1669)



Sea
of Galilee

Matthew 15:18 the things that come **OUT** of a person’s mouth come from the **HEART**, & these defile them.





Kirby Hill House
Kountze Texas

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

at Haunted Kirby Hill House

Friday – March 20, 2026, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

210 W Main St, Kountze, TX 77625, USA

409.246.8000 ~ Tickets \$78 each

Renowned Mystery writer Fred Finnegan has died.

The wake starts off normally,

but the circumstances of Freddie's death
keep coming into Question.

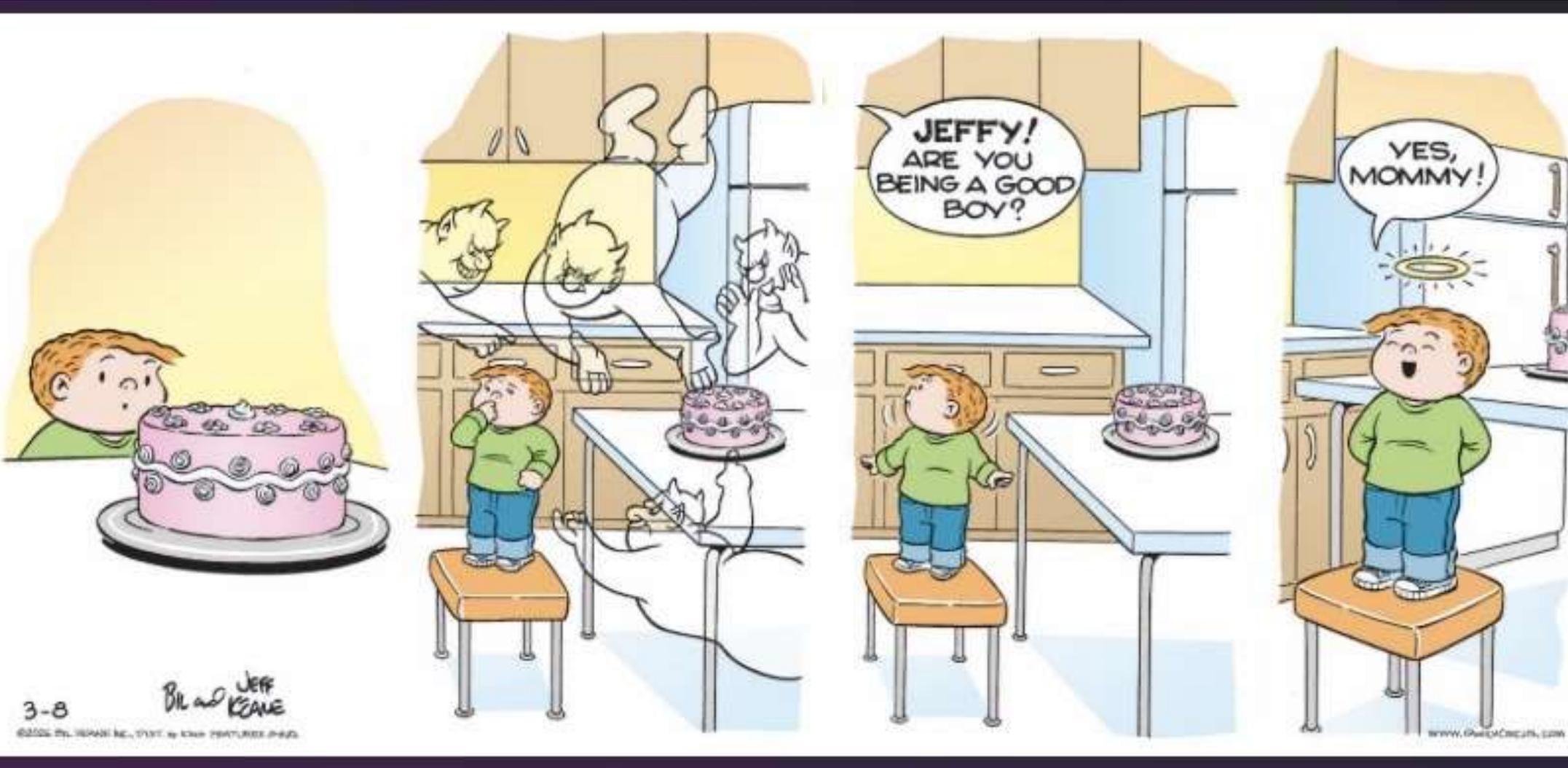
Can Freddie (ghost) find out what happened?

There is a ghost of a chance. He's dying to find out!



www.KirbyHillHouse.com

On this verse 15:19, "From out the heart comes Evil"



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents



Charles H. Spurgeon
by Alexander Melville
(1834-1892)

On this verse 15:19, **“From out the heart comes Evil....”**
In 1867, C.H. Spurgeon eloquently opened his
message titled **“Heart—Den of Evil”**

**This morning I trust I shall NOT be guilty of attracting
your attention for a single moment to anything
that is external, however gaudy....**

**It is to the human HEART that I ask you to turn your eyes.
It is to your own hearts, my hearers, you that
are converted and you that are not....**

**My text is a looking-glass in which every man may see...
NOT his face which he can see anywhere, but his HEART,
his moral nature, his innermost self.**

**Here, sin in many a heart is laid bare, turned inside out,
anatomized ... by one who cannot lie and cannot be deceived.**





2.5K



99

Just a little thought ...
to start off with a smile
It's not unusual to **LOVED**
by anyone
It's not unusual to have
FUN with
anyone



Matthew 15

1-20 What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

we shall focus on these hard verses

21-28 Faith of Canaanite Woman – Even Dogs get CRUMBS

Jesus leaves for Tyre & Sidon – Ignores Woman at 1st
Disciples “Send her AWAY” – Woman Begs like Dog
Daughter Demon-Possessed – GREAT FAITH

29-39 Jesus Feeds 4,000

Back to Sea of Galilee – on Mountain Side

**15:30 Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame,
the blind, the crippled, the mute & many others,
and laid them at Jesus’ feet,**

and Jesus healed them.

... fed the 4,000 w 7 basketfuls left over



Matthew 15

1-20 What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

we shall focus on these hard verses

This passage is not hard to READ – your quarterly does well

However, this passage is TEDIOUS, even BORING

In this passage—it is ALMOST *impossible* to find

Relevance & Application TODAY

There is No Offense TODAY to us on “Washing Hands”

zero ~ none ~ nada ~ zilch ~ that is, ZERO!

Some might even LAUGH - who cares? – Not Many!

How does “Washing Hands” relate to PARENTS?

This passage is also HARD for the Disciples

CLOUDED – we have NO indication Disciples GOT IT



END of Matthew 14, Jesus & crew were at Genne

Pharisees come to Jesus – now LOOK CLOSELY

15:1 Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the L

came to Jesus from Jerusalem ...

Where did those EXPERTS come from?

Where did those RULERS come from?

All the way from Jerusalem!

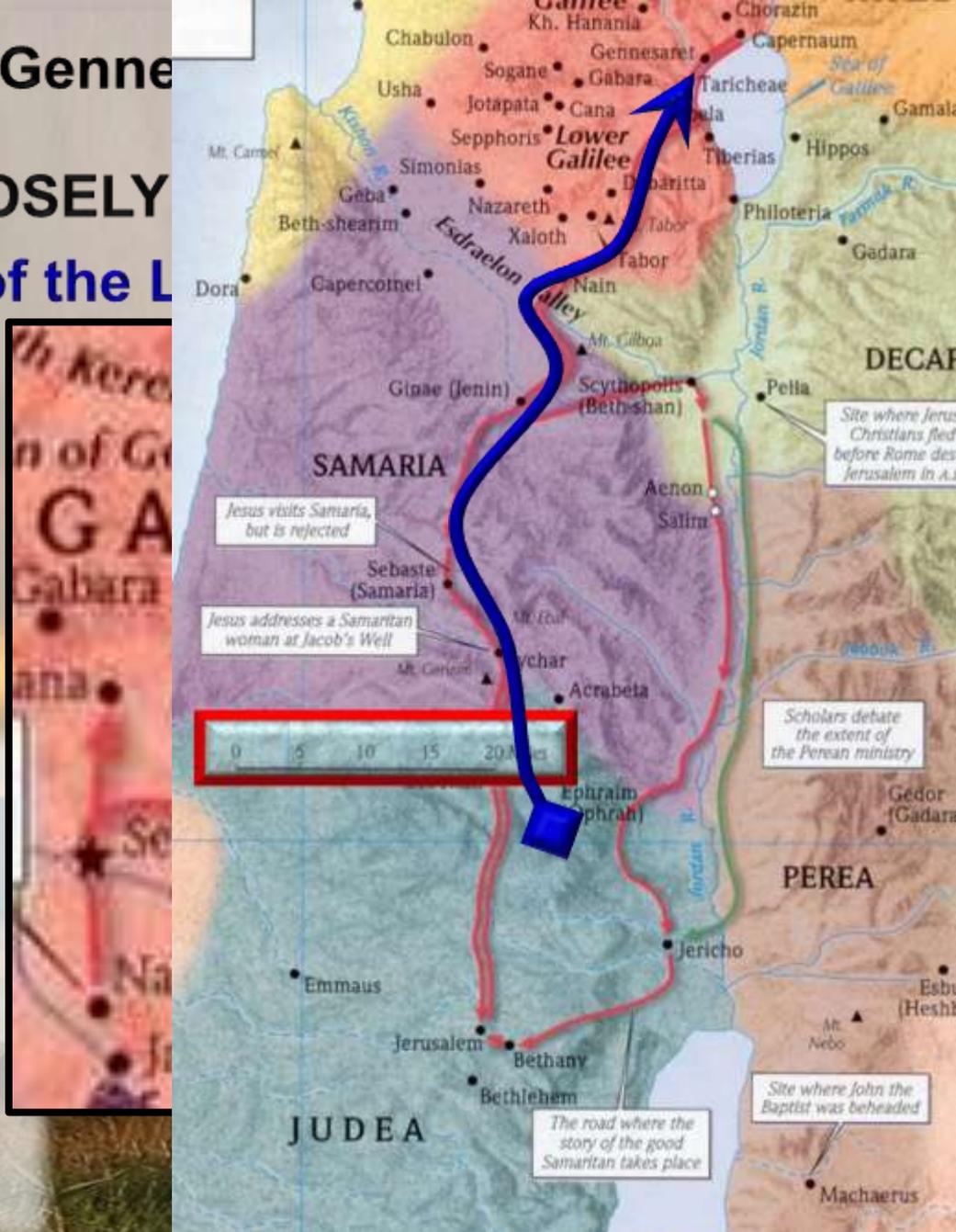
They didn't walk – likely they had carts with slaves driving

80-plus MILES – tells us VOLUMES

They TALKED about Jesus HOURS

Before & During their LONNNNG trip

To Set Jesus Straight – to Correct Jesus



END of Matthew 14, Jesus & crew were at Genne

Pharisees come to Jesus – now LOOK CLOSELY

15:1 Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the Law
came to Jesus from Jerusalem ...

WHY did those EXPERTS come?

All the way from Jerusalem!

What Maniacal HATE Drives Them?

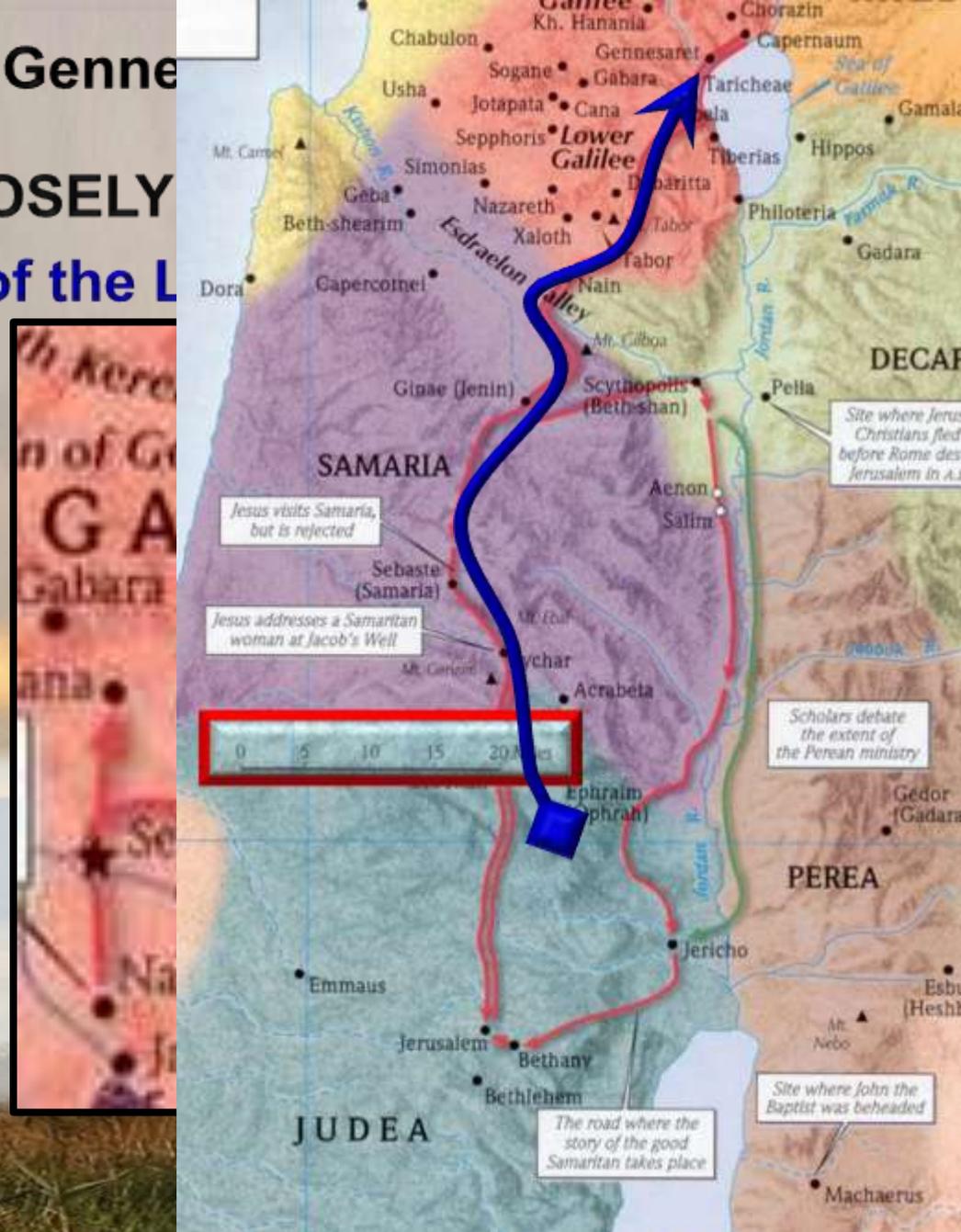
What Obsession so Clouds Their MINDS?

Jesus is HEALING Blind, Sick, Lepeorous

Jesus is HEALING the Lame, Deaf, ALL

Their first QUESTION is outrageous

Their first QUESTION is a Blinded EVIL



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

**1 Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the LAW
came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked,**

2 “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?

They don’t WASH THEIR HANDS before they eat!”

Can you sense the Betrayal to the Law by these Experts?

Can you sense the Betrayal to their office by these Experts?

Travel all they way ... to ASK WHAT? ... What DRIVES them

Kind of reminds of this dog’s view





Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

1 Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the LAW
came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked,

2 “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?

They don’t **WASH THEIR HANDS** before they eat!”

You see what happened – after a *LONnnnnng* trip

After weeks of planning, brain-storming, thinking, **HATING**

They arrive at the Sea of Galilee ... what do they do?

These EXPERTS of LAW & entourage LOOK & SPY out

They WAIT & WATCH – then CATCH the Disciples

CATCH the Disciples Eating without **WASHING HANDS**

EXPERTS did NOT care about Feeding & Healing the POOR



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

**1 Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the LAW
came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked,**

2 “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?

They don’t WASH THEIR HANDS before they eat!”

Now I try to wash before supper, just like you do

For me, the *WASHING* was never a RELIGIOUS exercise

Unless we’re talking about T-Bone Steaks & Potatoes

Seriously, NO Protestant or Catholic does that,

not that I am aware of – for over 1,000 years

TRADITIONS of the Elders – the KEY – ADDED to the LAW



3 Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your TRADITION?”

The Tradition was Called “Corban”

According to the [International Standard Bible Encyclopedia](#)

- ✓ Word means “A Gift” & religiously “Sacrificial Offering”
- ✓ Literally “that which is brought near,” as to the altar
- ✓ Frequently used in the Old Testament
- ✓ Compare Matthew 15 with Mark 7 – *same* conversation
- ✓ Anything dedicated to the temple by the word “Corban” forthwith BELONGED TO THE TEMPLE—only ideally!
- ✓ Gift could remain in the possession of him who gave, justifying not supporting his old parents cause property was a gift
- ✓ Christ singled out this to demonstrate the sophistry of tradition and its actual hostility to the Scripture and Law’s spirit.



There's a mystery here ... Disciples do not get it ... appears **NONE** of it

This is Graduate-level swashbuckling by Jesus ...

This is TOP Legal Eagle cutting ... Jesus is slaying the **EXPERTS**

Perhaps the Disciples knew the song ***Windmills of Your Mind***

Music by Michel Legrand & lyrics by Alan & Marilyn Bergman.

Introduced in the 1968 film ***The Thomas Crown Affair***

Song won an Academy Award for Best Original Song

Sung *so exquisitely* by Barbara Streisand

Like a circle in a spiral

Like a wheel within a wheel

Never-ending or beginning

On an ever-spinning reel



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

3 Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? *Compare Mk 7:5-23*

Notice that Jesus does NOT respond to their question

- ✓ Does NOT say that the Experts were wrong
- ✓ Does NOT say that Washing Hands was wrong

Instead, Jesus goes straight to the TOP in Logic & Law

Disciples don't follow & between lines the EXPERTS Tremble

Jesus gives the EXPERTS a Master Class in their field of LAW

Like Perry Mason or Lincoln Lawyer – Graduate-level jousting

Jesus SCHOOLS the EXPERTS as he exposes HYPOCRISY

Disciples—this is OUT of their League, blows their minds

All the Disciples say, v. 12, **“You offended the EXPERTS”**



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

4 For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to DEATH.’

Pharisees & Teachers of the Law come all the way from Jerusalem WEEKS—the EXPERTS were planning, talking, brain-storming WAITED until they CAUGHT Jesus’ Disciples ...

Perhaps Jesus DID WASH HIS hands ...

Come all this way to CORRECT Jesus ... what happens?

**Jesus is DEFENDING the LAW to the Experts
Exposing their FAILURE in the more important LAW
As they nitpick about TRADITION – few sentences
Jesus turns the EXPERTS’ attack against them**

Jesus is giving a MASTER Class in the LAW to the EXPERTS!



Perhaps the Disciples knew the song *Windmills of Your Mind*

Disciples are shaking their heads – dizzy & perturbed

Like a snowball down a mountain

Or a carnival balloon

Like a carousel that's turning

Running rings around the moon

What is Jesus talking about?



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

- 4 For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and
‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to DEATH.’
- 5 But YOU say that if anyone declares that
what might have been used to help their
father or mother is ‘devoted to God,’
- 6 they are NOT to ‘Honor their Father or Mother’ with it.
Thus you nullify the word of God
for the sake of your TRADITION.

I can imagine—several Disciples did NOT KNOW this
Using money devoted to God for SELF instead of PARENTS
What does Jesus say here? Honoring includes SUPPORT!
MOST IMPORTANTLY – Jesus EXPOSES the EXPERTS’
knowingly VIOLATING one of the TEN Commandments



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

7 You **HYPOCRITES!**

Isaiah was **RIGHT** when he prophesied about **YOU**:

8 “These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

9 They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.’ ”

Jesus quotes the Mega Prophet Isaiah to **EXPERTS** of **LAW**

Jesus declared **THEY** were the fulfillment of Isaiah 29:13

Yeah—the **EXPERTS** did **NOT** see that coming

WORSHIP & COMMANDS of God were displaced for **TRADITIONS**



To the Disciples—this is Out of Their League

Jesus—making mince meat of the Supreme Court

Perhaps the Disciples knew the song *Windmills of Your Mind*

Like a clock whose hands are sweeping

Past the minutes of its face

And the world is like an apple

Whirling silently in space

Like the circles that you find

In the Windmills of Your Mind

Disciples—Windmills Churn & Churn

but there is **NO BUTTER**



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

After KNOCKING Out the Experts – Disciples Shaking their Heads

10 Jesus called the crowd to him and said,

“Listen and UNDERSTAND.

**11 What goes INTO someone’s mouth does NOT defile them,
but what comes OUT of their mouth,
that is what defiles them.”**

Jesus will EXPAND on this in a moment ... *who GETS this?*

Appears this Knock Out Punch is missed by Disciples

NOT by the EXPERTS – cause they get offended, say disciples

WHAT IS THE LAW & Traditions? To make one HOLY !!!

EXPERTS were LESS concerned about HOLY

EXPERTS were BLIND to their own FAILURE to OBEY the LAW



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

**11 What goes INTO someone's mouth does NOT defile them,
but what comes OUT of their mouth,
that is what defiles them."**

Next – see how the Disciples MISS the POINT

**12 Then the disciples came to him and asked,
“Do you know the Pharisees were OFFENDED
when they heard this?”**

OFFENDING Pharisees is NOT Wise in Israel in Jesus' Day

OFFENDING Pharisees will cost Jesus His life in a 2 years

Yet that “Offense” tells us the Experts GOT THE POINT

That “Offense” observed tells us the Disciples MISSED the Point

But our Good Lord Jesus does not miss a beat ...



As Disciples ponder, wonder, muse, and shake their heads ...

Perhaps this is their THEME song *Windmills of Your Mind*

Like a clock whose hands are sweeping

Past the minutes of its face

And the world is like an apple

Whirling silently in space

Poor Disciples' head spin – Do NOT GET IT

We, too, have trouble ...



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

12 disciples ... “Do you know the Pharisees were **OFFENDED....?**

13 He replied, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the **ROOTS.**

“Plant”??? – the Pharisees ... if any are still there
Any Pharisee left is now **REALLY Offended**

14 Leave them. They are **BLIND GUIDES.**

If the **BLIND LEAD THE BLIND,**

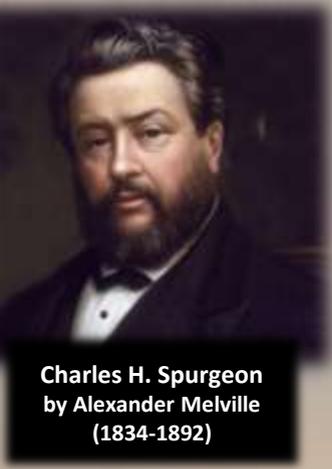
BOTH WILL FALL INTO A PIT.”

Disciples **STILL** do **NOT** get it ...

15 Peter said, “**Explain the parable to us.”**



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents



On this verse 15:19, **“From out the heart comes Evil....”**
In 1867, C.H. Spurgeon eloquently opened his message titled **“Heart—Den of Evil”**

Where man is hunted by every shame from outward superstitions, he would go to ANTTTHING sooner than yield his HEART’s LOVE to his Maker,

Or submit his intellect to the great Creator’s teaching,

Or render all his faculties to serve the Most High.

No matter how painful may be the mortification,

how rigid the penance, how severe the abstinence,

No matter how much may be taken from his purse,

or taken from the wine vat, or taken from the store,

he will ... suffer anything rather than bow before the Most High....

with a true confession ... trust in the Savior with a CHILDLIKE FAITH.



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

15 Peter said, “Explain the parable to us.”

16 “Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them.

**17 “Don’t you see that whatever ENTERS the MOUTH
goes INTO the stomach & then OUT of the body?”**

Those fishermen understood THAT

They knew the benefits of Prunes & Metamucil

That is the most graphic picture of Jesus’ words in the N.T.

“INTO the stomach & then OUT of the body?”

Another logistics absent in the Feeding 5,000 & 4,000

RESTROOMS – hate to say this, but it is a reality NOT MENTIONED

You know there were MORE than 12 Baskets of ... *LEFT BEHIND*



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

Jesus cleans it up without further ADO ...

**18 But the things that come OUT of a person's mouth
come from the HEART, and these defile them.**

**Likely also missed—Jesus NAMES what comes the HEART
are MISSED by the Disciples, too, seems to me
YET what Jesus Names coming out of the HEART
are precisely what the EXPERTS were doing
NOT all immediately—**

yet JESUS SAW CLEARLY



Perhaps the Disciples knew the song *Windmills of Your Mind*
Imagine the Disciples LOST here ... What will Jesus say NEXT
what comes OUT of the Mouth – hard words

Like a tunnel that you follow
To a tunnel of its OWN
Down a hollow to a cavern
Where the Sun has never SHONE

Like a door that keeps revolving
In a half-forgotten DREAM
Or the ripples from a pebble
Someone tosses in a STREAM



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents

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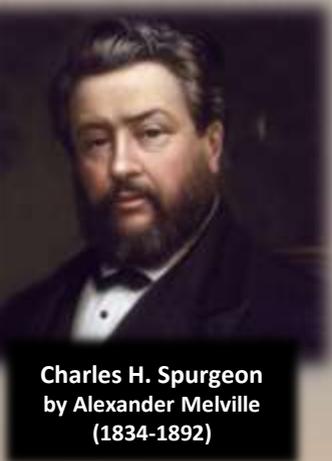
**19 For OUT of the HEART come EVIL thoughts—
murder, adultery, sexual immorality,
theft, false testimony, slander.**

**20 These are what defile a person;
but eating with unwashed hands
does NOT defile them.”**

Jesus therefore neuters the EXPERTS' Tradition with the LAW



Matthew 15:1-20 – What Defiles – Washing Hands vs Honoring Parents



Charles H. Spurgeon
by Alexander Melville
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Man pleads that he cannot worship God with his heart unless his memory be assisted by some outward object, an idol....

**Man gratifies his depraved nature with ... outward formalism.
God requires SOUL worship, & men give God BODY worship.
God asks for the HEART, & men present God with their LIPS.
God demands their thoughts & their minds,
and men give him banners, vestments, and candles.**



Can we do BETTER today at First Baptist Church Woodville?