

Sunday Bible College

Chapter 15

Death of John Baptist
Feeding Five Thousand
Walk on the Sea
Healings at Gennesaret

Holy Trinity
Anglican Church
Fernandina Beach, Florida

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:1-20

To defile:

1. sully, mar, or spoil.

"the land was defiled by a previous owner"

2. desecrate or profane (something sacred).

"the tomb had been defiled and looted"

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:1-20

Famous sayings from this passage:

"For the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God" 15:6

"The people honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me." 15:8 (Isaiah 29:13)

"In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men" 15:9 (Isaiah 29:13)

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:1-20

Famous sayings from this passage:

"They are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into the pit." 15:14

"What comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a man" 15:19-20

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:1-20

Is Jesus teaching that all tradition is ungodly?

No. He is teaching us that some traditions arise from sinful hearts in opposition to God's word,

If a tradition is contrary to God's word it ought not be kept.

If a tradition accords with God's word, it may be kept.

If a tradition is established by God's authority, it must be kept.

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:21-28

The Faith of the Cananite Woman

Jesus honors the faith of a gentile showing he is messiah of all, and not the Jews only.

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:29-31

Jesus heals many

Jesus ministry expands from individual Jews to a multitude of Jews and Gentiles.

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15:32-39

Jesus feeds Four Thousand

The feeding of the five thousand and the feeding of the four thousand are both, among other things, a preparation for the institution of the Eucharist

The repetition shows that Jesus' ministry was focused on message and always catechetical, preparing his people for the ultimate revelation.

(In seminary we are taught to follow this example of repetition by making every sermon in some way prepare hearers to receive holy communion.

The Things that Defile Us

Matthew 15 Overview

The Gospel Jesus proclaims is

Comprehensive
(for everyone)

Culturally Transformative
(cultures change to meet the gospel.)

Repetitive
(nothing new, always the same)

Serendipitous
(revealing surprising joys hidden in mundane places.)