Defiled From Within

Mark 7:14-23

Intro. | A. The Pharisees and Scribes found fault with some of the disciples of Jesus.

Vs. 1 | 1. They had come from Jerusalem.

Vs. 2 | 2. These disciples had not washed their hands according to a time-developed method.

2. Because of this neglect, when they ate bread they "defiled" themselves.

B. Jesus then proved that the Pharisees and scribes based their accusation on tradition and not the commandments of Moses.

Vs. 8 | 1. They laid aside the truth of God:

2. They embraced tradition.

Vs. 10-13 | 3. He proved this by using their practice of the gift of corban

[C. In these verses Jesus teaches all the people the true source of personal defilement.

Vs. 14a | 1. "Then he called the crowd close to him again."

2. "and he addressed them".

Vs. 14 b | 3. "hearken, all of you".

4. "understand" = συνίησεν = "to collect together the single features of an object into a whole".

I. Jesus Told Them The True Source Of Personal Defilement.

[A. Dietary defilement is impossible.

Vs. 15a | 1. "There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him:"
5. This truth makes it possible to eat any food, "purging all meats".
6. (thus he declared all foods clean) — RSV

III. The Source Of Evil And Personal Defilement

A. A man is defiled by what he says and does.

Vs. 20. "That which cometh out of a man..."
12. This is not that which is flushed into a sewer.
13. "...that defileth the man"

B. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed:

Vs. 21. [evil thoughts] = διὰ λογισμοῦ = consideration, not merely evil thoughts but evil devisings which issue in degraded acts and vices that are then listed. — 12 things
12. "adulteries" = μοιχεία = unfaithfulness in sexual matters;
13. "fornication" = πορνεία = illicit sexual behaviour

Vs. 23. [Theft] = κλοπή = theft by stealth
11. "covetousness" = πλεονεκρία = greed, the desire for more at the expense of others.
12. "wickedness" = πονηρία = bad, evil
13. "deceit" = δύσλογος = a bait, the adulteration of truth to catch or deceive.
15. "evil eye" = πονηρός = wicked. A Semitic expression for envy, jealous, a jealous grudge
16. "blasphemy" = Slander