

Defiled or Defiler?
Mark 6:53-7:23

1. Jesus is _____ caring and compassionate. (6:53-56)

These verses are a kind of _____ statement describing the peak of Jesus' popularity in the Galilee region.

God's _____ is available to all who will ask.

2. Jesus _____ must condemn and correct. (7:1-23)

The Jews came looking for a reason to _____ Him. (vv. 1-5)

These were _____ washings, which had been developed as traditions over and above the Old Testament.

They had made themselves _____ to God, putting their own authority over God's.

First, He _____ them, calling them hypocrites. (vv. 6-13)

Then He _____ them by going straight to the heart of the issue. (vv. 14-23)

Jesus says we are not defiled by things outside us. We defile _____. We are the defilers.

You're _____ clean on the inside, Jesus told the Jews, but sinful. And the sins that come out of you are proof positive. They are the things that defile you.

We need a Savior, pure and simple. _____ is in us all as humans and we can't get rid of it by ourselves, no matter how hard we try.

Calvary Connection Group

Discussion Questions for the week of Jan. 2, 2022

Getting to Know Me

- Is there something coming that you're looking forward to in 2022? Something you're dreading?
- Do you prefer white meat or dark meat on a turkey? Why?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?
- The people in Galilee were hoping to be healed by Jesus if they could touch the fringe of His cloak, and they were! This is not the only time something like this happened in the New Testament. Read Matt. 9:20; Luke 6:19; Acts 5:14-15; 19:11-12. What do these miracles tell us about the grace of God and His desire to do good things for us? Why don't things like this happen all the time today? (Hint: See 2 Cor. 12:12)
- The Jews of Jesus' time were confused, as are many people today, about the state of our hearts as humans. They thought that man was basically good and only needed to keep from messing up to be right with God. What does the Bible actually say about our state as humans? Read vv. 20-23 in our passage and also Gen. 6:5; Ps. 51:5; Jer. 17:9, Rom. 6:23. What do we really need to be right with God?
- There are several places in the New Testament, like v. 16 in our passage (eg. John 7:53-8:11; Mark 16:8-20) that are not in the best and oldest manuscripts. How can we be sure that what we have in our modern Bibles is actually what the original inspired writers wrote? If you don't know, read the following web page before answering. <https://www.compellingtruth.org/Bible-corrupted.html>

Application

- Do you have any traditions that aren't necessarily biblical that you value and that are helpful in your spiritual life? (Eg. a preference for one Bible translation over another, wearing certain items of clothing when you pray, etc.) Why or why not?
- How have you experienced the transforming power of Jesus in your life? In other words, what specifically is different about you now, since Jesus has come into your life, than from before you came to know Him?