

# John 15:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

## Analysis

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**Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you** (ἡδη ὑμεῖς καθαροί ἔστε διὰ τὸν λόγον)—Jesus declares the disciples katharoi (clean, pure) not through ritual washing but through ton logon (the word). This echoes Ephesians 5:26, where Christ cleanses the church "with the washing of water by the word."

The perfect tense ἔστε (you are) indicates an already-accomplished reality. Their cleansing came through receiving and believing Christ's teaching (His rhema, spoken word). In the vine allegory, this means genuine branches have been pruned (v.2) and purified through divine truth. Judas, who rejected the word, remained unclean (13:10-11)—not a true branch despite external proximity to the vine.

## Historical Context

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Spoken in the upper room on Passover night, hours before Jesus's arrest. In John's narrative, Jesus had just washed the disciples' feet (ch. 13), foreshadowing their spiritual cleansing through His death. The imagery of pruning connects to viticulture in first-century Judea, where vinedressers carefully cut away dead wood and excess growth.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus's word continue to cleanse and sanctify believers today (John 17:17)?
2. What is the relationship between hearing God's word and bearing spiritual fruit in your life?

## Interlinear Text

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ἵδη ὑμεῖς καθαροί ἐστε διὰ τὸν λόγον ὃν  
Now ye clean are through the word which  
G2235 G5210 G2513 G2075 G1223 G3588 G3056 G3739

λελάληκα ὑμῖν.

I have spoken unto you  
G2980 G5213

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ephesians 5:26** (Word): That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**John 17:17** (Word): Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**1 Peter 1:22** (Parallel theme): Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

**John 13:10** (Parallel theme): Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.