

# Mark 7:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

## Analysis

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**Mark 7:5** This passage continues Mark's fast-paced narrative demonstrating Jesus' divine authority, miraculous power, and confrontation with religious establishment. The theological themes include Christ's deity, sacrificial mission, call to discipleship, and inauguration of God's kingdom. Reformed interpretation emphasizes sovereign grace, substitutionary atonement, and transformation through regeneration.

## Historical Context

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First-century Palestinian Jewish context under Roman occupation shapes the narrative. Archaeological discoveries confirm Gospel accounts' historical accuracy. Ancient sources (Josephus, Tacitus) corroborate biblical timeline and cultural details. Early church fathers interpreted these Christologically, seeing Old Testament fulfillment and New Covenant establishment.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse reveal Christ's person and work in redemptive history?
2. What transformation should this truth produce in your thinking, affections, and behavior?

## Interlinear Text

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ἔπειτα	ἐπερωτῶσιν	αὐτὸν	οἱ	Φαρισαῖοι	καὶ	οἱ
<b>Then</b>	<b>asked</b>	<b>him</b>	G3588	<b>the Pharisees</b>	<b>and</b>	G3588
G1899	G1905	G846		G5330	G2532	
γραμματεῖς,	Διατί	οἱ	μαθηταί	σου	οὐ	περιπατοῦσιν
<b>scribes</b>	<b>Why</b>	G3588	<b>disciples</b>	<b>thy</b>	<b>not</b>	<b>walk</b>
G1122	G1302		G3101	G4675	G3756	G4043
κατὰ	τὴν	παράδοσιν	τῶν	πρεσβυτέρων	ἀλλὰ	
<b>according</b>	G3588	<b>to the tradition</b>	G3588	<b>of the elders</b>	<b>but</b>	
G2596		G3862		G4245	G235	
ἀνίπτοις	χερσὶν	ἐσθίουσιν	τὸν	ἄρτον;		
<b>with unwashen</b>	<b>hands</b>	<b>eat</b>	G3588	<b>bread</b>		
G449	G5495	G2068		G740		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 21:21** (Parallel theme): And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs.

**2 Thessalonians 3:6** (Parallel theme): Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

**Acts 21:24** (Parallel theme): Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law.

**Matthew 15:2** (Parallel theme): Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

**Galatians 1:14** (Parallel theme): And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

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