

Matthew 15

Chapter 15 of 28 · 39 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Tradition and Commandment

- ¹ Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying,
- ² Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.
- ³ But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?
- ⁴ For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.
- ⁵ But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;
- ⁶ And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.
- ⁷ Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,
- ⁸ This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.
- ⁹ But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

What Defiles a Person

- ¹⁰ And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand:
- ¹¹ Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

15 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare unto us this parable.

16 And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding?

17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?

18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

21 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Jesus Heals Many

29 And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there.

30 And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them:

31 Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

32 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.

33 And his disciples say unto him, Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?

34 And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes.

35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground.

36 And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

37 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full.

38 And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children.

39 And he sent away the multitude, and took ship, and came into the coasts of Magdala.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Word — λόγος (Logos)

Word, reason, message

The Greek **Logos** (Λόγος) means word, reason, or message—the rational principle underlying reality. John identifies Christ as the eternal Logos: 'In the beginning was the Word' (John 1:1).

CROSS REFERENCES

Matthew 15:1 **Resurrection:** Matthew 5:20; 23:2; Luke 5:17; 5:21; 5:30; Acts 23:9.

References Jerusalem: Mark 3:22

Matthew 15:2 **Parallel theme:** Mark 7:2; Luke 11:38; Colossians 2:8; 1 Peter 1:18

Matthew 15:3 **Parallel theme:** Colossians 2:8; 2:23. **Word:** Mark 7:13; Titus 1:14

Matthew 15:4 **References God:** Exodus 20:12; Leviticus 19:3; Deuteronomy 5:16; Romans 3:31. **Curse:** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9; Proverbs 20:20. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 19:19; Proverbs 23:22; Ephesians 6:1

Matthew 15:5 **Parallel theme:** Acts 5:29

Matthew 15:6 **Parallel theme:** 1 Timothy 5:8. **Word:** Psalms 119:126; Jeremiah 8:8

Matthew 15:7 **Parallel theme:** Mark 7:6

Matthew 15:8 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 23:26; Isaiah 29:13; Jeremiah 12:2; Ezekiel 33:31; John 1:47; Acts 8:21; Hebrews 3:12; 1 Peter 3:10

Matthew 15:9 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 20:7; Deuteronomy 12:32; 1 Samuel 25:21; Psalms 73:13; Isaiah 29:13; 1 Timothy 1:4; Hebrews 13:9; James 2:20. **Word:** Mark 7:7; Titus 1:14

Matthew 15:10

Parallel theme: Matthew 13:19; 24:15; 1 Kings 22:28; Isaiah 6:9; 55:3; Luke 24:45; Ephesians 1:17; Colossians 1:9; James 1:5

Matthew 15:11 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 10:7; 12:2; Isaiah 37:23; Mark 7:15; Romans 14:14; 14:17; 14:20; Titus 1:15; Hebrews 13:9; 2 Peter 2:18

Matthew 15:13 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 92:13; Isaiah 60:21; 61:3; John 15:2; 15:6; 1 Corinthians 3:9

Matthew 15:14 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 9:16; 42:19; 56:10; Jeremiah 5:31; Hosea 4:17; Malachi 2:8; Luke 6:39; 2 Peter 2:1

Matthew 15:15 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 13:36

Matthew 15:16 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 15:10; 16:9; 16:11; Mark 6:52; 7:18; 9:32; Luke 9:45; 18:34; Hebrews 5:12. **References Jesus:** Matthew 13:51

Matthew 15:17 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 10:27; Luke 6:45; 1 Corinthians 6:13

Matthew 15:18 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 12:34; 15:11; 1 Samuel 24:13; Psalms 36:3; Proverbs 6:12; 10:32; 15:2; 15:28; Luke 19:22

Matthew 15:19 **Evil:** Genesis 6:5; Isaiah 55:7; 59:7; Jeremiah 4:14; 17:9; Acts 8:22. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:113; Proverbs 4:23; 6:14; Romans 7:18

Matthew 15:22 **Grace:** Matthew 9:27; 17:15; Psalms 4:1

Matthew 15:23 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 14:15

Matthew 15:24 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 53:6; Ezekiel 34:23; Acts 13:46; Romans 15:8

Matthew 15:25 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 32:26; Hosea 12:4; Mark 9:22. **Worship:** Matthew 8:2; 14:33. **References Lord:** Matthew 20:31

Matthew 15:26 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 7:6; Romans 9:4; Galatians 2:15; Ephesians 2:12; Philippians 3:2; Revelation 22:15

Matthew 15:27 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 5:45; Luke 16:21; 18:13; Romans 3:29; Ephesians 3:8. **References Lord:** Matthew 8:8; Ezekiel 16:63; Romans 10:12. **Truth:** Genesis 32:10; Romans 3:4

Matthew 15:28 **Faith:** Matthew 8:10; 8:13; 9:22; 14:31; Job 13:15; Mark 5:34; Luke 7:50; 17:5. **Parallel theme:** Job 23:10; Psalms 145:19

Matthew 15:29 **References Jesus:** Matthew 4:18; John 6:1. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 5:1

Matthew 15:30 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 103:3

Matthew 15:31 **Glory:** Matthew 9:8; Mark 2:12; Luke 7:16. **References God:** Psalms 50:23; Luke 18:43. **References Israel:** Matthew 9:33. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 18:8; Psalms 50:15; Mark 7:37; 9:43

Matthew 15:32 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 9:36; Acts 27:33

Matthew 15:33 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 14:15; Mark 6:37; Luke 9:13

Matthew 15:35 **Parallel theme:** John 6:10

Matthew 15:36 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 9:13; Luke 22:19; John 6:11; Acts 27:35; Romans 14:6; 1 Corinthians 10:31

Matthew 15:39 **Parallel theme:** Mark 8:10

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