

Matthew 15:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

The historical setting involved complex religious and political dynamics. Jewish leaders maintained authority through Roman tolerance while common people sought deliverance. Jesus' teaching addressed both immediate concerns and eternal truths.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ?
2. What false beliefs or practices does this text correct?
3. How should you share this truth with others?

Interlinear Text

τὸν	δὲ	ἐκπορευόμενα	ἐκ	τὸν	
those things which	But	proceed	from	those things which	
G3588	G1161	G1607	G1537	G3588	
στόματος	ἐκ	τὸν	καρδίας	ἐξέρχεται	κάκεινα
the mouth	from	those things which	the heart	come forth	and they
G4750	G1537	G3588	G2588	G1831	G2548
κοινοῖ	τὸν	ἄνθρωπον			
defile	those things which	the man			
G2840	G3588	G444			

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 15:28 (Parallel theme): The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

Matthew 12:34 (Parallel theme): O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Matthew 15:11 (Parallel theme): Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

Proverbs 10:32 (Parallel theme): The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaketh frowardness.

Proverbs 15:2 (Parallel theme): The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

Proverbs 6:12 (Parallel theme): A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth.

1 Samuel 24:13 (Parallel theme): As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

Psalms 36:3 (Parallel theme): The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good.

Luke 19:22 (Parallel theme): And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow:

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