TODAY’S SCRIPTURE FOCUS: MATTHEW 15:1-20

“MATTERS OF THE HEART”

SERMONIC POINTS:

#1: HOW
#2: HARD
#3: HEART

“Then the scribes and Pharisee...from Jerusalem came to JESUS, saying, ‘Why do YOUR disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?’

Matthew 15:1-2

“But HE answered...them, ‘Why do you also transgress the commandment of GOD because of your tradition?’

Matthew 15:3
“...THUS you have made the commandment of GOD of no effect by your tradition.’ ”
“Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you” Matthew 15:6-7

**DEFINITION of “TRADITION:”**

LATIN => “tradere”
PREFIX => “trans”=‘over’
SFFX => “dare”=‘to give’

**DEFINITION #1:**
“transmittal of elements of a culture from one generation to another, esp. by oral communication.”

**DEFINITION #2:**
“A mode of thought or behavior, customs of usages passed from one generation to another...”

**DEFINITION #2:**
“...and viewed as a coherent body of precedents influencing the present.”
(heritage)

**DEFINITION #3:**
“A body of unwritten religious practices.”
DEFINITION #4: “A time-honored practice or set of such practices.”

SERMONIC POINT #2: HARD

“These people draw near to ME with their mouth, and honor ME with their lips, but their heart is far from ME.”

Matthew 15:8

“And in vain they worship ME, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men”

Matthew 15:9

“Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.”

Matthew 15:11

“Then HIS disciples came and said to HIM, ‘Do YOU know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?’ ”

Matthew 15:12
“But HE answered and said, ‘Every plant which MY heavenly FATHER has not planted will be uprooted.’ ”

Matthew 15:13

“Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”

Matthew 15:14

SERMONIC POINT #3: HEART

“These people draw near to ME with their mouth, and honor ME with their lips, but their heart is far from ME.”

Matthew 15:8

“Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated?”

Matthew 15:17

“But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.”

Matthew 15:18
“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.”

Matthew 15:19

“These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”

Matthew 15:20

“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it springs the issues of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”

Proverbs 23:7