When Jesus and the Disciples went into the house (V 17) He gave the Disciples a mild rebuke. They were having a tough time understanding that the rules they grew up with were no longer the measurement of their love for God.

The fact is it had always been a matter of the heart. But even today we may find it easier to follow external manmade rules than to love someone unconditionally. This battle remains as long as we dwell in this fallen world. Therefore, this passage of scripture is a practical warning and a reminder...your mouth will speak what your heart is full of!

Nothing outside a person can make him unclean

Things that come out of a person are what make him unclean

James 3:2-12

Out of the heart of man come evil actions:

- <u>S</u>
- <u>T</u>
- M
- A
- G
- M



Out of the heart of man come evil attitudes:

- D
- L
- E
- S
- A
- F



All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.

Praise God...Titus 3:5-7

Personal Application and Interaction

1. As God's Children we are new creations. Jesus' righteousness has been imputed to us. Share with the group the ways in which you have seen God's love flow from your life.

2. The statement "The mouth speaks what the heart is full of" and James 3:2-12 illustrates how deadly the tongue can be. How can the battle of controlling that 2.5 ounce trouble maker be won?

3. The Pharisees had moved so far from God that their manmade rules and traditions was the focus. Have you seen other churches struggle with manmade rules and traditions? How about our church? In both cases, was the struggle resolved, if so how?

4. Rank the list of evil actions and evil attitudes making number one on the list the one you struggle with the most.

5. Asking the members of your Growth Group to support you in prayer and hold you accountable for change in the areas you struggle with is a biblical solution that will help in your sanctification process. Will you dare to share?



It Comes from Within

Mark 7:14-23

Pastor Dennis March 5, 2017

