

WARNING THE MULTITUDE ABOUT EMPTY WORSHIP
(Matthew 15:10-20)

- I. The Vital AXIOM (Matt. 15:10-11)
 - A. He addressed the CROWD (15:10)
 - 1. Jesus CALLED them to Him
 - 2. Jesus charged them to “HEAR and UNDERSTAND”
 - B. He stated it CLEARLY/CONCISELY/SUCCINCTLY (15:11)
 - 1. NO ONE is defiled by what they CONSUME
 - a. CONSISTENT with OT PRINCIPLE (i.e., Deut. 10:12-16; Josh. 24:23; 1 Sam. 16:6-7; Isa. 51:7; 57:15; etc.)
 - b. CONFLICTED with Jewish PERCEPTION
 - 2. EVERYONE is defiled by what they SAY [and DO]
- II. The Valid APPLICATION (Matt. 15:12-20)
 - A. The disciples are CONCERNED (15:12-14)
 - 1. The Pharisees were OFFENDED
 - 2. The Pharisees were the TARES among the WHEAT
 - 3. The Pharisees should be AVOIDED or IGNORED

4. The Pharisees were BLIND GUIDES of the BLIND
- B. The disciples are CONFUSED (15:15-16)
1. They asked Jesus to EXPLAIN the PARABLE
 2. They admitted their LACK of UNDERSTANDING
- C. The principle is CLARIFIED (15:17-20)
1. What is CONSUMED is eventually ELIMINATED (cf. Mk. 7:19)
 2. What comes from the MOUTH reveals what you ARE (cf. 5:8; 12:34)
 - a. Includes CORRUPT SPEECH
 - b. Includes EVIL THOUGHTS
 - c. Includes all sorts of SINFUL ACTIONS
 3. You are defiled by your wicked INTENTIONS and ACTIONS
 4. You are not defiled by what you EAT
 - a. Nullifies ritual HAND WASHING
 - b. Nullifies Jewish DIETARY RESTRICTIONS