Lesson Outline
Harmony of the Gospels
Pharisees from Jerusalem Reproach Jesus
Mark 7:1-23; Matthew 15:1-20; John 7:1

I. Introduction: This lesson teaches us that all modes of worship invented by men are displeasing to God.

II. The Pharisees and certain scribes came together from Jerusalem.
   A. The Disciples Eating Bread with Unwashed Hands
   B. Human Traditions
      1. Some traditions are manifestly wicked.
      2. Others mingle profane trifles with Godly worship and corrupt its purity.
      3. Other traditions are condemned because they are imagined to be necessary to the worship of God; and there is a departure from sincere obedience to God alone, and a snare is laid for the conscience. The washing of hands falls into this category.
   C. The inventions of men have an appearance of wisdom.
      1. Colossians 2:23
      2. Romans 14:14
   D. Isaiah Prophesied of this Hypocrisy
      1. Isaiah 29:13 and Ezekiel 20:18-19
   E. Hypocrisy of Believers in Succeeding Ages.
      1. 2 Timothy 3:5; Romans 11:8
      2. Isaiah 29:10

III. Rejecting the Commandments of God to Keep Our Own Traditions.
   A. Teaching for Doctrines the Commandments of Men.
   B. For Moses said, Honor thy father and thy mother...
      1. God had delivered into the hands of Moses His Law, written tables of stone, to be given to the children of Israel. (Exodus 20:12)
      2. The scribes were altogether wrong in acquitting those persons who failed to perform their duties to their parents under the Law. (Exodus 21:17)
   C. There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him.
      D. Explanation of The Parable – Mark 7:17-23
         1. Christ explains that which cometh out of the person, defiles them; meaning, not their excrements, which were unclean by the law, but what comes out of their heart, by their mouth.
         2. Psalm 5:9

Closing: All evil thoughts, words, and actions, take their rise from the inward parts of man; from his heart; which is sadly corrupted, and is the fountain from whence all these impure streams flow.