

## The Heart of All Our Problems

Mark 7:14-23

## II. The Source of Sin Explained (17-23)

- A. What Never Defiles: What Goes In (18-19)

Ground  
Zero



## Mark's Inspired Interpretation

- 19b – (Thus He declared all foods clean.)
  - Laws of clean and unclean foods...
    - 1) To enter into god's presence and to fellowship with Him requires moral purity.
    - 2) To keep Israel separate from the other nations.
  - Acts 10:14-16, 25-29, 34-36

## Outline

- I. The Source of Sin Identified (14-16)
- II. The Source of Sin Explained (17-23)
  - 18a – Restatement of the 1<sup>st</sup> Half.
    - 18b-19 – Explanation
  - 20a – Restatement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half.
    - 20b-23 – Explanation

## Mark's Inspired Interpretation

- **Application...**
- Gen. 9 – all animals given to man for food.
- Mosaic law – some animals not acceptable for Jewish people.
- Mark 7 – all foods are back on the table.
- Acts 15 – only continuing stipulations for Gentiles was eating the blood or meat that had been strangled for the purpose of keeping the blood in it.
- Cf. 1 Cor. 10:25 - Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake;
- Cf. Col. 2:16 - Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day.
- 1 Tim. 4:1-5

## II. The Source of Sin Explained (17-23)

- A. What Never Defiles: What Goes In (18-19)
- B. What Always Defiles: What Comes Out (20-23)

## Total Depravity

- **What it does mean:**
- 1) That the corruption inherent in every human being permeates every part of man's nature, including every faculty and power of both soul and body.
- 2) There is nothing spiritually good in the sinner at all.

## A Summary of Original Sin

- 1) Imputed Guilt
- 2) Inherited Pollution/Corruption
  - a) Total depravity
  - b) Total inability

## Practical and Theological Implications...

- **1) Don't try to attain true moral purity without dealing with the heart.**
  - (a) Isolationism
  - (b) Moralism or self-reformation.
  - (c) Legalism as a way of salvation.
  - (d) Ritualism
  - (e) Legalism as a way of sanctification.
  - (f) Secular values education

## Total Depravity

- **What it does not mean:**
- 1) That people act as bad as they really are by nature.
  - Why?
    - God's restraining common grace in 1) an innate awareness of God and coming judgment; 2) the law written on their hearts (Rom 2:14-15); 3) various authorities, including parents and civil government (Rom. 13:1-5).
- 2) That every sinner will indulge in every form of sin.
- 3) That people have no knowledge of God's law or a functioning conscience.
- 4) That sinful man doesn't admire those things that are good and virtuous.
- 5) That every sinner is as depraved as he can possibly become.

## Practical and Theological Implications...

- **2) Our hearts are always the real problem—every time we choose to sin.**
- **3) The source of all our sin comes from a fallen heart and its evil thoughts and desires.**
  - Heart = soil
  - Evil thoughts = the root
  - Sins = fruit
- **4) When we deal with sin in our lives, we must address it at all those levels.**



## Practical and Theological Implications...

- 5) We are really, personally guilty before God at all those levels.
  - The grace of regeneration to give us a new heart.
    - Ezek. 36:26 - "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."
  - The grace of forgiveness when we sin as Xns.
  - The grace of sanctification to grow in real moral purity.
  - Where do we get God's grace for those things?
    - John 1:14, 16-17; Rom. 16:24; 1 Cor. 16:23; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 6:18; Phil. 4:23; 1 Th. 5:28; 2 Th. 3:18; Philemon 1:25