

**OUR THREEFOLD MINISTRY – 2**  
**OCTOBER 24, 2018**

**REVIEW:**

Every believer and church has a threefold ministry to: God, saints, world. To be effective in ministering to the saints and world, ministering to the Lord must be our first priority.

Ministering to the Lord involves true worship, praise and waiting on God.

**CONTINUE: MATTHEW 15:8-9**

Outward worship is only meaningful when it flows from inward devotion to God's laws and commandments.

**V1-2** – Jesus exposed the hearts of the Scribes and Pharisees who came to accuse Him and His disciples of transgressing the traditions of the elders. John Gill – Rabbinical writings include “my son, attend to the words of the Scribes, more than the words of the law... everyone that transgresses the words of the Scribes, is guilty of death.” “Whoever eats bread without washing of hands, is as if he lay with a whore: Whoever dissipeth washing of hands shall be rooted out of the world.” “He that blesseth (food) with defiled hands, is guilty of death.” Eleazar ben Chanac was excommunicated for despising the tradition concerning washing of hands, and when he died, the Sanhedrin sent and put a great stone upon his coffin. To show he died in his excommunication, the Sanhedrin stoned his coffin.

**V3** – Jesus answers their question with a question. He wanted to know why they transgressed the laws of God by following the traditions of men.

**V4-6** – Jesus turns the tables on them. If anyone should die the death it was them for transgressing the fifth commandment.

**V7-9** – They prayed publicly, in the Synagogue, and Temple. They worshiped and offered thanksgiving and praise. Outwardly they seemed sincere, but inwardly, their hearts were far from true devotion to God.

**V10-14** – They needed rooted out because of their influence. **MATTHEW 23:27-28**

**ABOUT THE HEART**

**1 SAMUEL 16:7** – Man sees the visible, but God sees the heart or inward characteristics one possesses.

**ACTS 13:22** – God focused on David's character more than his outward appearance or physical stature.

**PROVERBS 4:23** – The heart needs protected. Why? Ask David! It can be deceived and distracted if neglected.

**2 TIMOTHY 4:10** – The world drew his heart away from God. It needs protected from strife, pride, self-pity, guilt, condemnation, selfishness, low self-esteem, bad attitudes, becoming calloused or hardened by sin, unbelief...

**PSALMS 111:1, 138:1-2** – Genuine worship is not in what one does outwardly, but in what's happening inwardly.

**PROVERB 3:5-6** – We're to trust God from the heart and not exalt our reasoning above God's Word.

**ROMANS 10:10** – We believe with the heart. **ACTS 8:36-37**

**JEREMIAH 29:13, 24:7, DEUTERONOMY 30:6** – The key to seeking is seeking with the heart. The goal of seeking is to find. The effect touches the lives of our children.

**PSALMS 51:10** – Only God can change the heart if given the opportunity.

**HYPROCRISY DEFINED**

To exalt the traditions and doctrines of men above the commandments of God and act as though we love and worship God. To worship with our lips when our hearts are far from God. **MATTHEW 5:21-24**