

# September 1 - All Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

## Mark 7:1-8

### The Tradition of the Elders

<sup>7</sup> Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup> they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup> (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup> and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) <sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup> He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup> in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup> “You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

## Mark 7 continued: 14-15

<sup>14</sup> Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup> there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

## **Mark 7 continued: 21-23**

<sup>21</sup> For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”