

Wash Your Heart – Not Your Hands

Luke 11:37-44

June 9, 2024

Pastor Art Dunn

Nehemiah 8:7-8 NIV

- ⁷ The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there.
- ⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Nehemiah 8:8 NLT

- ⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God and clearly explained the meaning of what was being read, helping the people understand each passage.

Hebrews 4:12-13 NIV

- ¹² For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Luke 11:37-44 NIV

- ³⁷ When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited him to eat with him; so he went in and reclined at the table. ³⁸ But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal.
- ³⁹ Then the Lord said to him, "Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰ You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? ⁴¹ But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.
- ⁴² "Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.
- ⁴³ "Woe to you Pharisees, because you love the most important seats in the synagogues and respectful greetings in the marketplaces.
- ⁴⁴ "Woe to you, because you are like unmarked graves, which people walk over without knowing it."

Mealtimes were wonderful times of interaction and relationship building for Jesus.

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INTEGRITY

What Is It?

- Soundness
- Completeness
- Appearance and Reality Match
- Inner and Outer Line Up

MAIN IDEA

Integrity Needs To Be Made An Issue...

- Jesus made integrity an issue.
- Internal integrity, not external conformity, needs to be an issue.

...Rooted In Logical Consistency...

- Integrity is a virtue that makes good sense.
- The external signs of devotion to God ought to be rooted in a rich inner life.

...Related To The Character Of God...

- The character of God is our standard or measure for living.
- **Amos 7:8** And the Lord asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

And...

...Divorced From Social Approval.

- If we want to have integrity, we need to live by our values not be drawn by social approval.
- Truth is where integrity is.

CONCLUSION:

Every Sermon Should Have Something To...

- ❖ Know/Understand ... Jesus makes an issue of the connection between the inner and outer life.
- ❖ Believe ... Jesus wants us to live with moral and spiritual integrity.
- ❖ Do ... I can make spiritual integrity an issue in my life. Be careful what I put in my inner life. Guard my heart and mind. What we see, hear and read affects our lives.