

Studies in the Life of Christ

NT Survey Lesson 19--Matthew 15

Introduction: The confrontation with the Pharisees continues with a delegation coming from Jerusalem. This afforded Jesus the occasion to teach the truth not only on the command "honor thy father and mother" but also on the subject of clean and unclean foods. Matthew presents Jesus' withdrawal to the area surrounding Galilee.

Lesson aim: To show that acceptable worship must be offered from a heart willing to obey God fully.

A delegation from the Pharisees--Matthew 15:1-15

1. What question did the Pharisees bring to Jesus? What question did Jesus ask them in return?
2. How had the Pharisees nullified the force of the command "Honor your father and mother"?
3. What O.T. passage did Jesus point to as illustrating this attitude?
4. What statement did Jesus make that caused the Pharisees to stumble over Him?
5. How did Jesus respond to the disciples' concern that the Pharisees were rejecting Jesus because of His views about the source of defilement?

Jesus explains His parable to the disciples--Matthew 15:15-20

1. What did Jesus say defiled the man?
2. From where do these things come?

A Canaanite woman comes to Jesus for help--Matthew 15:21-28

1. What did the Canaanite woman want Jesus to do for her? Describe her determination.
2. How did Jesus test her faith? How did she respond?
3. How did Jesus describe this woman's faith?

Four thousand fed--Matthew 15:29-39

1. How did the people respond to this new outpouring of healings from God?
2. What did Jesus want to do for the multitudes?
3. With what resource did Jesus start? How much was left over when the people were fed?