

## Mark 7 English Standard Version

**7** Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, **2** they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. **3** (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly,<sup>[a]</sup> holding to the tradition of the elders, **4** and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash.<sup>[b]</sup> And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.<sup>[c]</sup>) **5** And 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?” **6** And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,  
but their heart is far from me;

**7** in vain do they worship me,  
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

**8** You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

**9** And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! **10** For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ **11** But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)<sup>[d]</sup>— **12** then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, **13** thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

**14** And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: **15** There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.”<sup>[e]</sup> **17** And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. **18** And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, **19** since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?”<sup>[f]</sup> (Thus he declared all foods clean.) **20** And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. **21** For from within, out of the

heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup> coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

<sup>24</sup> And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon.<sup>[g]</sup> And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. <sup>25</sup> But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup> And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup> And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup> And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> And Jesus<sup>[h]</sup> charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

## Footnotes

- a. [Mark 7:3](#) Greek *unless they wash the hands with a fist*, probably indicating a kind of ceremonial washing
- b. [Mark 7:4](#) Greek *unless they baptize*; some manuscripts *unless they purify themselves*
- c. [Mark 7:4](#) Some manuscripts omit *and dining couches*
- d. [Mark 7:11](#) Or *an offering*
- e. [Mark 7:15](#) Some manuscripts add verse [16](#): *If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear*
- f. [Mark 7:19](#) Greek *goes out into the latrine*
- g. [Mark 7:24](#) Some manuscripts omit *and Sidon*
- h. [Mark 7:36](#) Greek *he*

**English Standard Version (ESV)**

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