

R

E

L

I

T

A

D

M

EXPOSED

re.li.gion |ri'lijən|

noun

**Webster's Dictionary says that religion is a personal or institutionalized system of attitudes, beliefs and practices**

1 Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked,  
2 "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!"  
3 Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?  
4 For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' [a] and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.' [b]  
5 But you say that if a man says to his father or mother, 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,'  
(Matt. 15:1-20)

6he is not to 'honor his father [c]' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. 7You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

8" 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

9They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.

'd' "

10Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand.

(Matt. 15:1-20)

11 What goes into a man's mouth does not make him 'unclean,' but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him 'unclean.' "

12 Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?"

13 He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. 14 Leave them; they are blind guides. [[e](#)] If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

15 Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."

(Matt. 15:1-20)

16"Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them.

17"Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body?"

18But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man

'unclean.' 19For out of the heart come evil

thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality,

theft, false testimony, slander. 20These are what

make a man 'unclean'; but eating with unwashed

hands does not make him 'unclean.' “

(Matt. 15:1-20)

1. Religion often sets aside the Word of God
2. Religion breeds hypocrisy
3. Religion can't cleanse a diseased heart.

# This is the Great News:

- Christianity is God Coming down from heaven, becoming a man in the person of His Son Jesus Christ
- Jesus being tempted to break the commands of God but remaining perfectly Holy and meeting the demand that God puts upon men.

# This is the Great News:

- Then Jesus willingly offering His perfect life as a sacrifice for our sins, not only taking our sins away, but giving us Jesus' perfect righteousness, so that we can become children of God. **We can become born again!**
- How can this happen, we need only to agree with God that we are sinners totally incapable of saving ourselves and turn to Christ (by faith) and receive the gift of eternal life that He died to give! **(John 3:16; 1:12)**