

**Study of Mark 7**  
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**Mark 7:1-37**

*1 Then the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem, came together unto Him 2 And when they saw some of Messiah's disciples eat bread with (what they called) defiled, that is to say, with **unwashed hands**, **THEY FOUND FAULT**.*

**WHY** did they **FIND FAULT**?

*Verse 3 For the Pharisees, and **ALL** the Jews, do **NOT** eat, except they wash their hands often, holding **the tradition of the elders**.*

Please notice that the Pharisees and the Scribes found fault in Messiah's disciples, **NOT** because of them transgressing any Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, **BUT** they found fault, because Yeshua's disciples did **NOT** follow **NOR** obey the man made doctrine of the Sadducees, their man made oral torah, the very same oral torah that they teach, supersedes the written Torah that Yahweh gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, also called the traditions of man by Yeshua. Scripture makes it very clear, that we cannot serve two masters, therefore it is, or should be quite evident, that these Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees were **NOT** being obedient the Words of the written Torah of Life of our heavenly Father, because, **IF** they were, they would **NOT** have **found fault** with what Messiah's disciples were doing, since they did **NOT** transgress any of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, by eating food without washing their hands first.

It is very important that we understand the **FACT**, that what these Pharisees are talking about, **IS** a man made ordinance, a man made doctrine, conjured up in the minds of the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes and Rabbis of Judaism, and that **IT IS NOT A COMMANDMENT** found anywhere in the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, because, **IF** we do **NOT** recognize the difference, between the two, then we, you and I, and everyone else for that matter, will fall into the very same trap that the church fathers have done, for millennia, which has caused them to believe and teach that since it was **OK** with Messiah, that His disciples broke the Torah, by **NOT** washing their hands before they ate, **THEREFORE**, they falsely concluded, that since Messiah chose **NOT** to reprimand His disciples, for **NOT** washing their hands, that He was actually teaching that the Torah of our heavenly Father, that YHVH gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, **IS NO LONGER VALID**, and that it should be tossed aside, in favour of the teaching of the Christian church fathers.

*Verse 4 And when they came from the market, except they wash their hands, they do **NOT** eat. And there are **many OTHER things**, which they have been **TAUGHT to keep**, such as, the washing of cups, and pots, brazen vessels, and of tables (which by the way, are **NOT** Commandments from the Torah, that was given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, by Yahweh, Himself). 5 Then the Pharisees and Scribes asked Messiah, **WHY** do Your Disciples **NOT WALK** according to **the TRADITION of the elders**, **BUT** eat bread with unwashed hands?*

Here we see that the Pharisees make it very clear that the **washing of hands before eating IS a**

**Rabbinical teaching, it is a TRADITION of men, and NOT a COMMANDMENT** from Yahweh.  
*Verse 6 Messiah answered and said unto them, Well has Isaiah prophesied of YOU HYPOCRITES,*

Here Messiah, who as you know or should know, **IS** the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, the very same Torah that was given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, calls the Pharisees, who are the Rabbis of the day, **HYPOCRITES**, which means that they are, pretenders, deceivers, phony, cheats, cheaters, and or beguilers.

Then Messiah continues and says: *as it is written* (in the Book of Isaiah, in the Tanach), *This people* (meaning the Pharisees and those who follow their man made doctrines, their fabricated oral Torah, their lies, and those who follow their man made doctrines) *honour Me with their lips, BUT their heart IS FAR FROM ME.*

Here Messiah quotes the Words that Isaiah spoke, when he referred to the people of Yisrael/Judah who said they were worshipping Yahweh, while all the while, they were worshipping the gods of others, which meant, that their hearts were **NOT** at all surrendered to Yahweh, but to themselves or to the fabricated gods of others.

*Verse 7 Howbeit in vain*

(Strong's number G3155 μάτην, mátēn, pronounced, mat'-ane, **accusative** case of a derivative of the base of G3145, through the idea of tentative **manipulation**, i.e. **unsuccessful search**, or else of punishment; **folly**, i.e. adverbially, **to no purpose**, in vain; Strong's number G3145, μασσάομαι, massáomai, pronounced, mas-sah'-om-ahee, from a primary μᾶσσω, mássō, to handle or squeeze; to chew, gnaw. In Hebrew it is the Word Sheqer, שקר, it is from H8266; and means an **untruth**; by implication a **sham**, without a cause, **deceit, deceitful**, false, falsehood, feignedly, **liar**, lie, lying, a **vain thing**, wrongfully)

There are a lot of people in the world that have this attitude, the attitude where they **pretend** to worship Elohim, **BUT** they are **liars, deceivers, tricksters**, who peddle **falsehoods, untruths**, just like these Pharisees and their followers are doing right here in *Mark 7*

*Howbeit in vain, μάτην, mátēn, do they* (the Pharisees and their followers) *worship Me,*

Instead of teaching the Words of the Torah that our heavenly Father gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, which is what, **ALL** the Prophets taught, and what I Messiah, was sent here on earth to teach, they, the Scribes and Pharisees, teach **THEIR** own man made doctrines, the man made traditions of their fathers, their **LIES**, the very same **LIES** that Jeremiah talks about in *Jeremiah 16:19-21 O Yahweh, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of AFFLICTION, the Gentiles shall come unto YOU from the ends of the earth, and they shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited LIES, vanity, and things wherein there is NO profit. Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods? Therefore, behold, I will this once CAUSE them to know, I will cause them to know My hand and My might; and they SHALL know that My Name is Yahweh.*

What will they be teaching in the day of affliction according to Isaiah? They will be, *teaching for doctrines, the commandments of MEN.* Which means that they will do what it says in, *verse 8 They*

will **Lay aside the Commandment of Elohim**, and instead they **WILL hold the tradition of men**, as the washing of pots and cups: and **many other such like things you do**.

As you can clearly see, Messiah is chastising them for their **hypocrisy**, and the **lies** that they have perpetrated on people of Yisrael, by teaching them the **Lies of their synagogue fathers**, the lies of the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes and Rabbis.

*Verse 9 And Messiah said unto them, Full well YOU, (meaning the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, Rabbis and their followers), REJECT the Commandment of Elohim, that you may KEEP YOUR OWN TRADITION.*

Messiah could **NOT** make it any clearer, that **ALL** man made religions, **REJECT the Commandment of Elohim, SO THAT they can KEEP THEIR OWN TRADITIONS**, which **ARE** the **LIES** of their fathers, whether they are the **LIES** of the Rabbis, or the **LIES** of the church father's of Christianity, or the **LIES** of the Hierarchy of the Catholic church.

Now, what follows is Messiah **CONFIRMING** that what Mosheh said, **IS** what they should be following and obeying, rather than what the traditions of their fathers teach.

*Verse 10 For Mosheh said, Honour your father and your mother; and, Whosoever curses his father or mother, let him die the death: 11 But YOU (the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, Rabbis, the church fathers and the Catholic Hierarchy) say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, it is a gift, by whatsoever you (my father and my mother) might have profited by me, your son; the son shall be FREE (of Yahweh's Commandment, to honour his mother and father). 12 And (through your lies) YOU ALLOW him, the son, to NOT do anything for his father or his mother (thereby negating, in your heart, the Commandment that Yahweh gave us, to honour our father and mother); 13 Making the WORD OF ELOHIM OF NONE EFFECT THROUGH YOUR MAN MADE TRADITION, which you have delivered (and commanded your followers to obey): and MANY such man made commandments DO YOU COMMAND YOUR PEOPLE TO FOLLOW.*

*Verse 14 And when Messiah had called all the people unto Himself, He said unto them,*

*Hearken (Shema, which means, hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow, and obey) Me, every one of you, and understand: 15 There IS NOTHING from outside of a man, that entering into him can defile him: BUT the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.*

When Messiah says, it is what comes **out of a man that defiles him**, He is talking about the words that come out of a man's mouth, for the mouth of man **speaks** what is on his heart; and the heart of man harbours, and or contains, all the thoughts of men, whether they are good or evil. Therefore what the mouth actually **speaks, IS** what is on a man's heart, and that is what **WILL sanctify, or defile him**, and therefore, what a man eats, does **NOT** defile him, what defiles him or her, is the attitude they harbour in their hearts, does he or she have a surrendered heart to Yahweh, and are they willing to obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, as He has commanded all people to do or not?

*Verse 16 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.*

(Let him shema, let him hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow and obey, what Yahweh has commanded us to do).

*Verse 17 And when Messiah was entered into the house from the people, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable. 18 And He said unto them, Are you so **without understanding** also?*

This same question should be posed to every person that professes to be a believer in the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq, and Ya'aqov, *are you so **without understanding** that you do **NOT** understand this very simple principle?*

*Do you **NOT PERCEIVE, UNDERSTAND**, that whatsoever thing from without that enters into the man, it **CANNOT defile him**; 19 Because it does **NOT** enter into his **heart**, **BUT** into the belly, and goes out into the colon, purging all meats?*

What Messiah is saying **IS**, that it isn't the **FACT** that you did eat pork or shellfish, that defiles you, it is the **FACT** that you chose to disregard and willingly disobey, the Commandments of our heavenly Father, that states that these things, **are NOT food for you, THAT DEFILES YOU**. The **FACT** that you **ATE** something that our heavenly Father told you ,was **NOT** food for you, will have some consequences on your physical health, **BUT** it does **NOT DEFILE YOU**, however the **FACT** that you **willingly chose** to disobey the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and chose of your own accord, to eat what our heavenly Farther said, was **NOT** food for you, will have everlasting consequences, **IF** a person does **NOT** repent of their transgressions of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and that consequence my friends, **IS**, being sent to their second death on Judgement Say, for their rebellious disobedience to the Words of the Father's Torah of Life.

*Verse 20 And Messiah said, That which comes out of the man (his words, that express his heart condition), **THAT IS WHAT defiles the man**. 21 For from within, out of the **HEART** of men, proceed, 1 – evil thoughts, 2 - adulteries, 3 - fornications, 4 - murders, 5 - Thefts, 6 – covetousness, 7 – wickedness, 8 – deceit, 9 – lasciviousness, 10 – an evil eye, 11 – blasphemy, 12 – pride, 13 – foolishness:*

The number thirteen in Scripture, speaks of rebellion, which is exactly the kind of heart a person has, when they willingly choose to eat something that the Creator of the universe has said is **NOT** food for us human beings.

*Verse 23 All these **EVIL THINGS** come from within, (from a man's heart) and **DEFILE the man**.*

*Verse 24 And from there He arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into a house, and would have no man know it: **BUT** He could **NOT** be hid. 25 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an **unclean spirit**,*

(Strong's number G169, ἀκάθαρτος, akáthartos, from 1, the letter Alpha, as a negative particle, and a presumed derivative of 2508, meaning cleansed; therefore it means **morally lewd, impure ceremonially**, or specially, demonic, **foul, unclean**, and the word spirit, Strong's number G4151, πνεῦμα, pneûma, pronounced, pnyoo'-mah, from G4154; a current of air, breath, a blast or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, **human spirit, the rational soul**,

*by implication, a vital principle, mental disposition*, or superhuman, an angel, demon, or divine Elohim, Messiah's spirit, the Holy Spirit, life, spiritual, spiritually, mind)

As you can see by the definition, this young girl's spirit, was unclean, which meant that she was mentally ill, and could not participate in any religious activities in the temple, and her mother wanted her purified or cleansed. However, we are not told, why her spirit was unclean, it could be guilt, fear of having whatever sin she committed, being discovered, or she could have had some temporary or permanent mental illness.

Nevertheless we are told that *the mother heard of Messiah, and she came and fell at His feet:*

Furthermore we are told in *verse 26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought Messiah that He would **cast forth the devil** out of her daughter.*

(Cast forth, Strong's number G1544 ἐκβάλλω, ekballo, it is from G1537 and G906; and it means to eject, literally or figuratively, bring forth, cast forth, cast out, drive out, expel, leave, pluck, pull, take, thrust out, put forth, put out, send away, send forth, send out.

The word Devil used here is Strong's number G1140, δαιμόνιον, daimónion, pronounced, dahee-mon'-ee-on, neuter of a derivative of 1142; it is defined as *a persons afflicted with especially severe diseases, either bodily or mental, such as paralysis, blindness, deafness, loss of speech, epilepsy, melancholy, insanity*, etc. it is also defined as a demonic being; by extension a deity, a devil, god)

Here we see that the woman falsely believed, as so many other people falsely believe, that her daughter was somehow *possessed by the devil*, and she wanted Messiah to cast out the devil, but as we learned above, her daughter was simply in a very bad mental state of mind.

*Verse 27 But Yeshua said unto her, Let the children (the sheep of the lost tribes of Yisrael) first be filled: for it is **NOT** meet (proper, good, virtuous) to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.*

Here Messiah is saying that what He has to offer, is for the people that want to hear His message, because it will change their lives, and set them on His Righteous Torah obedient Path to everlasting Life, and therefore since the woman only wanted her daughter to be cleansed and *NOT* herself, Messiah said that she would have to wait until the children were fed first. What does Messiah mean by these words, and why did He speak them to this woman? What is the message that Messiah is communicating to us here through these words? I believe that He is telling us, that unless a person willingly chooses to surrender their hearts to Yahweh with a desire to become His Torah obedient children, then His salvation message *IS NOT* for them. We have to understand that what Paul told us in Philippians is very true, *Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, NOT as in my presence only, BUT NOW, much more in my absence, WORK OUT YOUR OWN SALVATION WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING.*

We, or anyone else for that matter, can't just come to YHVH when we need something for ourselves or for some loved one, and then ignore YHVH the rest of the time. *THE PEOPLE that come to Him, MUST* learn to surrender their will to His Will, and learn to praise and worship Him always, and once we have learned to do that, *THEN* we can ask what we will of Him, and *if it is according* to His Will, then we can be assured that He will provide what we asked of Him.

*1 John 5:14-15 And this **IS** the confidence that we have in Him, that, **IF** we ask **ANY THING** according to His will, then **WE KNOW** that He hears us: And **IF WE KNOW** that He does indeed hear us, then whatsoever we ask of Him, we **KNOW** that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.*

*Verse 28 And the Greek woman answered and said unto Messiah, Yes, Master (that is correct): **YET** the **dogs** under the table (referring to herself and her daughter) eat of the children's crumbs.*

Here the woman is agreeing with Messiah that the food, the seed, the bread, the Words that He is speaking are indeed for the children of Yisrael and not for the dogs, those that are **NOT** part of Yisrael, **BUT** the dogs, can, and do eat the crumbs that come off of the table of the children of Yisrael.

What do you think this Greek woman means by the words, *the dogs who are under the table eat the children's crumbs*? She is telling Messiah that there is a benefit to eating the Words, the bread that He Messiah gives His children, and **IF** we can get enough of it, then **MAYBE** we too can see the benefit of joining the family of the children of Yisrael and get a permanent seat at the table to partake of more of your bread, instead of just crumbs. And what is Messiah's answer?

*He says in verse 29 And He said unto her, For this saying go your way; the devil is gone away (**NOT** out of) from your daughter. 30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil had departed, and her daughter laid upon the bed.*

This tells us that the woman's belief in Messiah's ability to heal her daughter, **IS** what caused Messiah to ask our heavenly Father to heal the child of her impurities, her sins, and as you can see, when the mother returned home, her daughter was well, which means, that she was in her right mind, and resting in bed.

*Verse 31 And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, Messiah came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis. 32 And they brought unto him one that was **deaf**,*

(Strong's number G2974 κωφός, kōphós, from 2875; blunted, figuratively, of hearing, deaf, or speech, dumb, deaf, dumb, speechless. In Hebrew, it is the word Cheres, שָׁרֵשׁ, means to be silent, be dumb, be deaf)

*And had an impediment in his speech;*

(Strong's number G3424 μωγιλάλος, mogilálos, from 3425 and 2980; hardly talking, i.e. dumb, tongue-tied, having an impediment in his speech)

*And they beseech Messiah to put His hand upon him. 33 And Messiah took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers into his ears, and He spit, and touched his tongue;*

What do you suppose is the significance of Messiah putting His fingers in the ears of the deaf man, and what are we to learn from this? I believe that Messiah is teaching us that when we allow Him to touch our lives, that whatever we could **NOT** comprehend and understand before He touched our lives, will **NOW** become clear and easily understood and comprehended by the ones whose lives He has touched and influenced.

What do you think is the message that Messiah wants us to understand when He spit on His hand and then placed His Hand on the tongue of the man who had a speech impediment? It is again the very same principle, when Messiah touches our lives in any way, it becomes much easier for us to communicate what He has done, and continues to do for us, and we also have to remember, that it is our mandate, our responsibility as people that have chosen to believe follow and obey the Words of Messiah, the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, made flesh, so that we can communicate the wonders of our Creator to the rest of the people of the world who are mired in darkness.

*Verse 34 And looking up to heaven, Messiah sighed, and said unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.*

(Ephphatah is Strong's number G2188 ἐφφαθά, ephphathá, and it is from the Hebrew word Patach, פתח, which means, to open, he opened wide, he opened up, uttered, declared, expounded, was untied, was begun, he freed, set free, he regained his sight)

This word Ephphatah, tells us that Messiah was lifting His head towards heaven and asking our heavenly Father to heal this man who was deaf. And the word Ephphatah, is translated from the Hebrew word Patach, which means to open, to declare, to set free. Therefore, in the physical, Messiah was setting this man free from his illness, his deafness, but in the spiritual, Messiah was setting this man free from his **stubbornness**, his **lack of understanding** what obedience to the Words of the Father's Torah of Life will do for him. Do you think that maybe after this man was healed from his physical illness, that **NOW** he would start believing and **listening** to what Messiah was teaching? The answer I believe is a resounding yes, and although we are **NOT** told what happened to this man after our heavenly Father healed him through Messiah, I am sure that from that point on, he was so thankful, that he could now hear, and speak, that he continued listening to and obeying the messages, or the teachings of Messiah.

*Verse 35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly.*

That is what Yahweh did for this man in the physical, **BUT** that is also exactly what He does for **ALL** people that come to Him, and choose to surrender their hearts over to our heavenly Father, Messiah opens the ears of their souls, and loosens their tongue, so that they can freely speak His Words of Life to as many people as they meet in their lives.

*Verse 36 And He charged them that they should tell no man: BUT the more He charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it;*

If Yahweh had healed you from being deaf and tongue tied, how would you react, would you be able to keep it quiet? I know that I don't think I could, because I would be so happy that I would want to shout it from the rooftops.

*Verse 37 And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He has done all things well: He makes both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.*

Our heavenly Father, through Messiah can, and does these things in both the Physical and spiritual realms, and He is asking us to do the same, with everyone we meet. Our mandate, my friends, **IS** to spread the Word of Yahweh's Torah of Life everywhere we can, first by living it, and then, by sharing His eternal Truth with as many other people as we can. Let us take this moment and rededicate ourselves, to doing the task that Yahweh has commanded us to do, let us rededicate ourselves to be a Light onto the people of the nations of the world that are mired in Darkness. Amein.

*Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.*

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Amein*