

THE ISSUE WAS RITUAL HAND WASHING



- Vs. 16 a Parable aimed at man-made Traditions
- Scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem want to brand Jesus as a heretic
- Ritual hand washing is not found in the Torah
- Ritual washing applied to Levites and Priests when performing certain Temple duties
- Yeshua's argument is that the Traditions are used to override God's laws and commands

THE DISCIPLES LOOKED THROUGH TAINTED LENSES

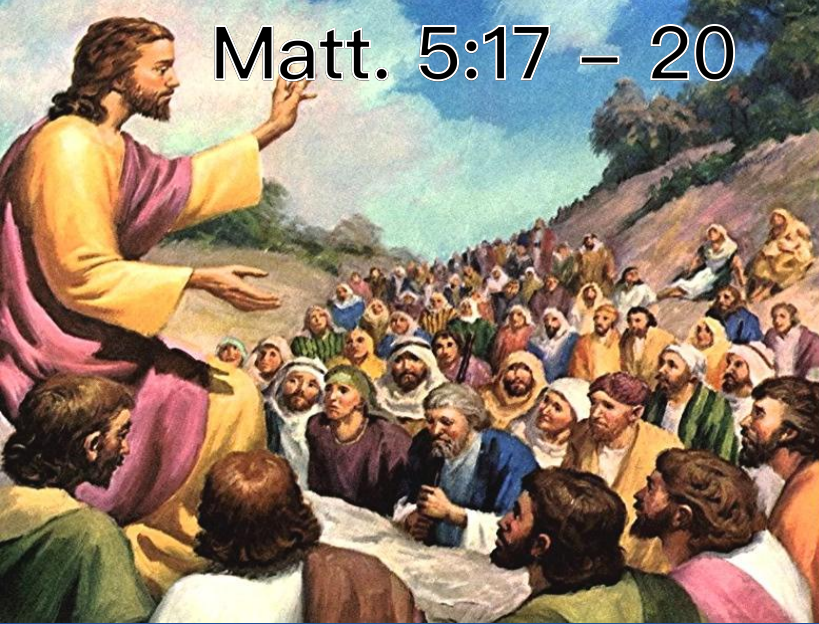


- Yeshua called these Synagogue leaders blind guides and wolves in sheep's clothing
- Christ's disciples were shocked that He corrected these leaders
- The religious leadership sees it as an affront to have to explain and defend themselves
- Matthew 15:16 – 20 and Mark 7:13 – 23 speak of the same incident



TRUTH VS TRADITION

- Mark 7:13 *“ Thus with your Tradition..... You nullify the Word of God! And you do other things like this.”*
- Yeshua tried to reason with Peter using common sense
- Premise: whatever food you put into your mouth has the same results (it goes into the latrine)
- Further, ritually clean and ritually unclean food eventually winds up in an unclean state
- It is what comes OUT of the mouth that is important



Matt. 5:17 – 20

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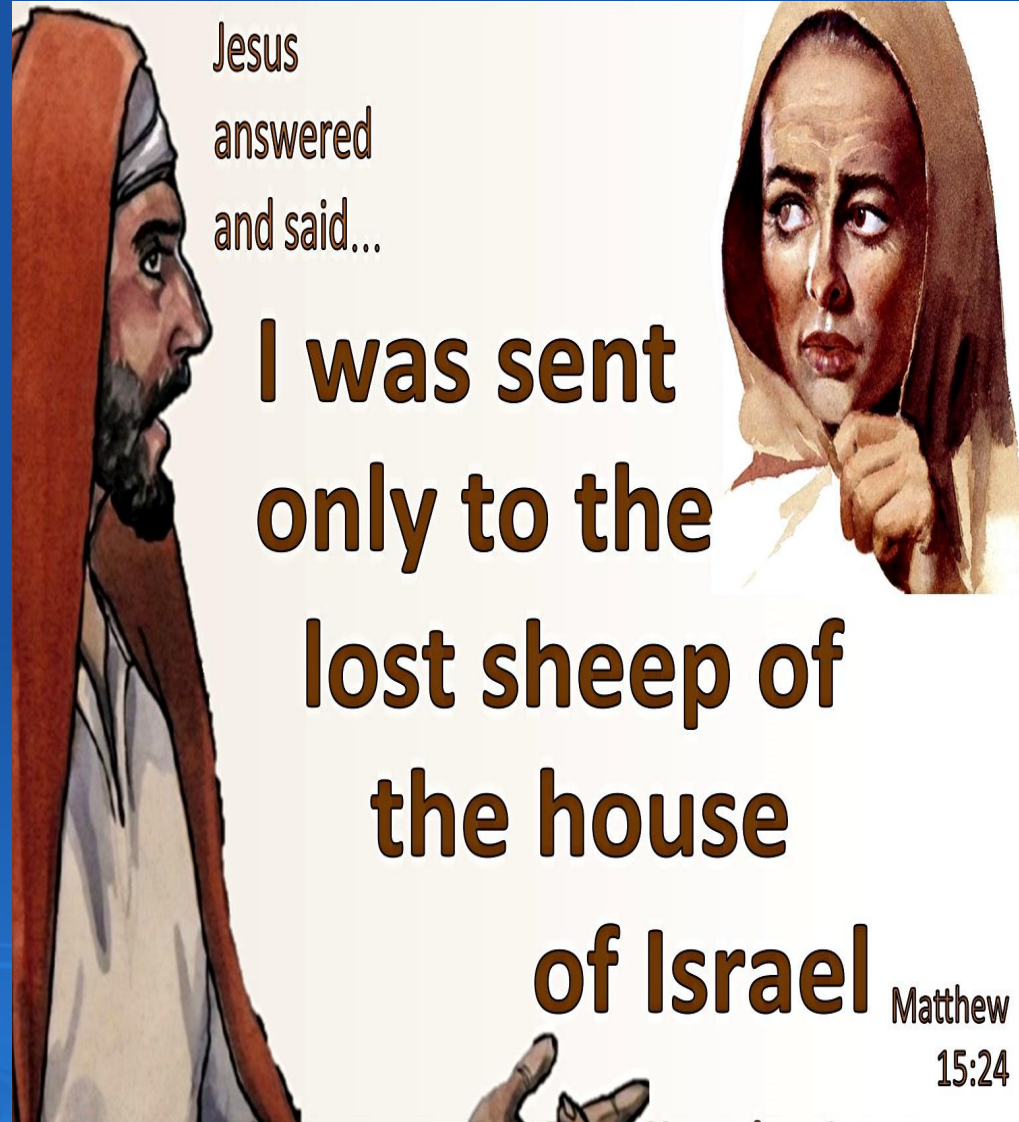


Mark 7:19

- Clean and unclean had evolved to be a more general statement of acceptable and unacceptable
- Christ is saying that ritual hand washing has no ability to make unclean food clean, nor to make clean food unclean if not performed
- Matthew's statement is Christ's own words
- The statement in Mark did NOT come from Christ, but rather is an editorial remark from the writer (a gloss)

A MAJOR DOCTRINAL PROBLEM

- Yeshua did NOT create some sweeping new food laws; rather He was attacking Traditions that contradict God's Word
- Gentile woman from "Canaan" seems to recall ancient times, used to heighten the tension of the story
- Why would a gentile woman think to call Yeshua "Son of David"?



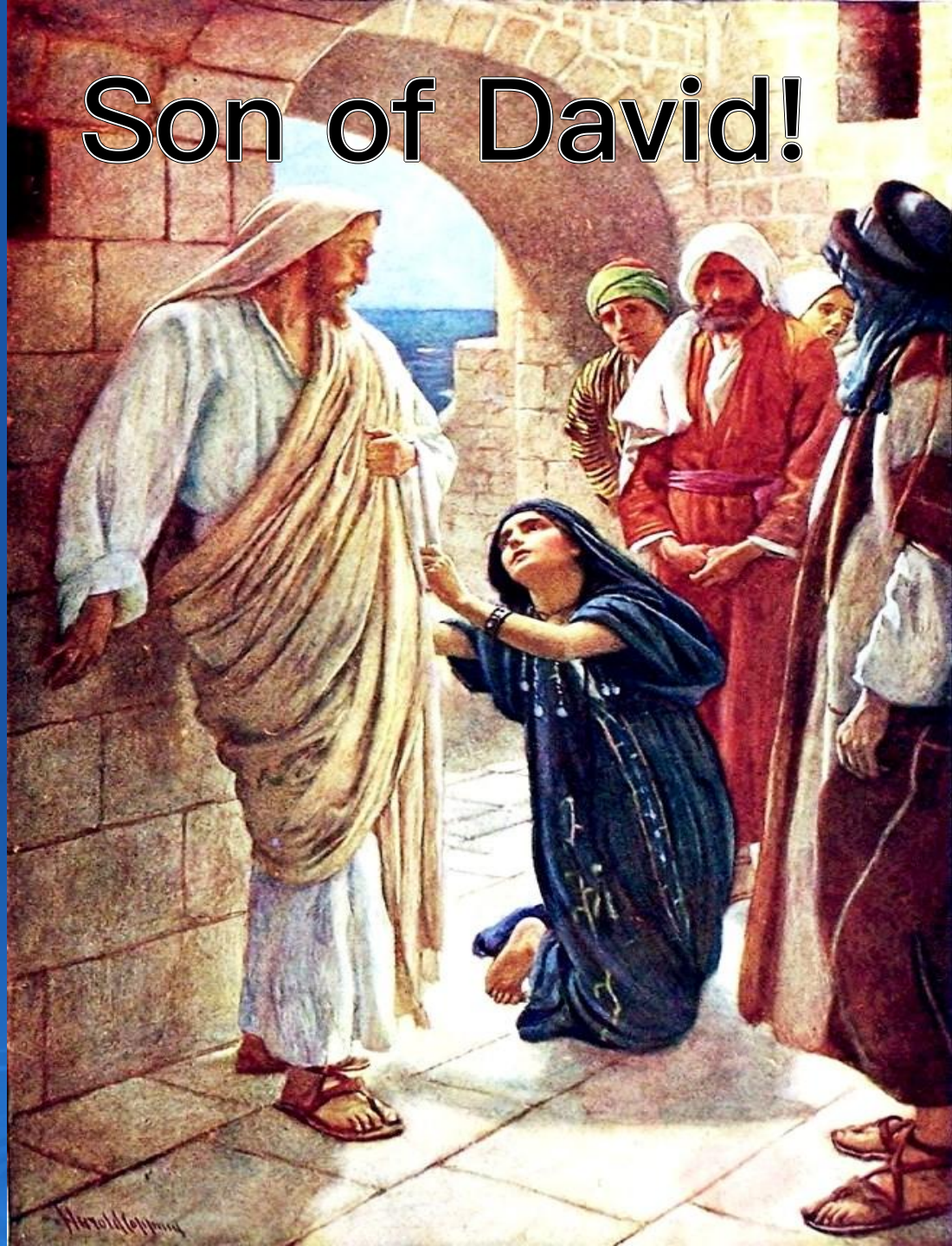
Jesus
answered
and said...

**I was sent
only to the
lost sheep of
the house
of Israel**

Matthew
15:24

Son of David!

- Yeshua was known far and wide as a miracle-working *Tzadik*
- “Son of David” has been used before in Matthew
- It was meant literally as referring to Solomon, David’s firstborn
- It was Jewish Tradition that Solomon was himself a miracle healer
- Yeshua ignored the pleas of this non-Jewish woman
- ICC Commentary: *“Jesus declares the absolute priority of Israel for His mission...”*



CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS vs. JEWISH TRADITIONS

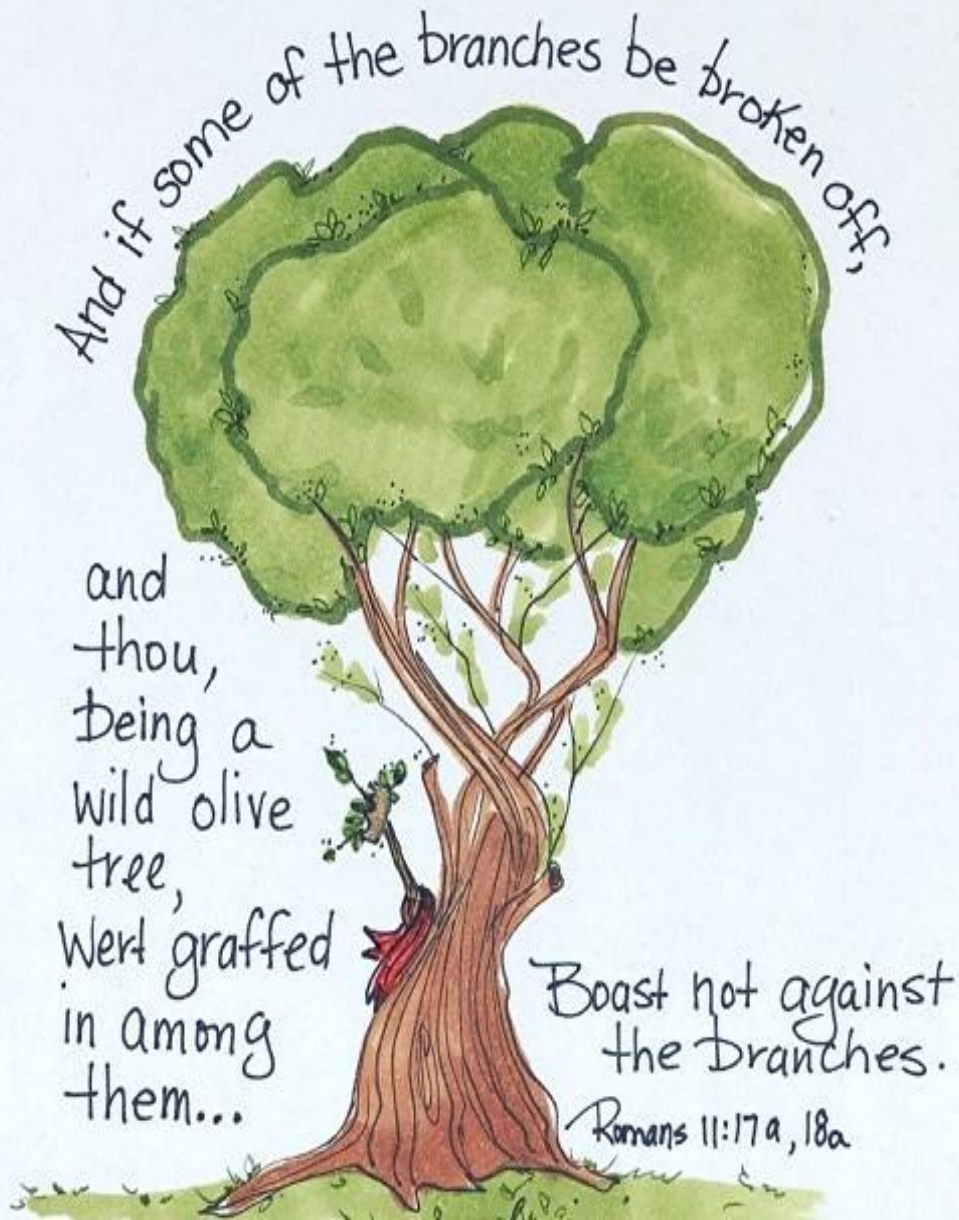


- We must not take one Bible verse in isolation
- Christianity says Christ is about gentile priority, not Jewish
- Matt. 10:5 – 6
- ***Kurios*** = a word of respect (sir)
- The woman was NOT calling Yeshua “Savior”



- Yeshua's response of ***"It is not right to take the children's food and toss it to their pet dogs"*** sounds cruel to a Christian
- Mark 7:27 says it differently:
"He said, let the children be fed first..."
- Matthew speaks of Jewish exclusivity, while Mark speaks only to Jewish priority
- Paul also speaks of Jewish priority, but not exclusivity, in Romans 11:13 - 27

OLIVE TREE = CHILDREN'S FOOD



- Dogs = wild olive tree
- Yeshua sets the priority; the woman acknowledges the priority; and yet we find the Church has reversed the priority
- This reversal is called Replacement Theology
- God's Word must resume its place over man-made doctrines

FAITH IN YESHUA BRINGS ACCEPTANCE

- The woman's faith and humility brought out Christ's compassion
- Only 2 non-Jewish women in the NT said to have great faith
- Yet, this woman's faith was NOT that Jesus was God and Savior
- Acts 1: 6 - 9

