

THE MARKS OF TRUE RELIGION
Matthew 14:34-15:20 // April 21, 2024 PM

I. True religion *submits to holy authority* (15:1-9, 12-14).

II. True religion *springs from holy affections* (15:10-11, 15-20).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What did the religious leaders criticize Christ's disciples for not doing? Did God command this in the law?
2. How did Jesus turn their criticism on its head, showing them that they are actually the ones at fault?
3. What is tradition? Is Jesus completely against all tradition? Or is He combatting a certain kind of tradition?
4. What are some ways we can make void God's word by our traditions?
5. How does Jesus evidence remarkable humility in the strong words He speaks to the religious leaders? Does humility make us pushovers before men or courageous for God?
6. Why is it wrong to think that the food we eat morally defiles us? From where does all defilement come?
7. Who alone can change our hearts so that from the inside out we begin to love God and people? How is this foundational to true discipleship?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. What is the relationship between God's word and human tradition?
2. What are some traditions I adhere to and love? In what specific ways might I be tempted to make void God's word for the sake of those traditions?
3. Have I submitted to the Surgeon of surgeons and gotten a new heart by His grace? Why must this happen before even one step can be taken on the path of sincere discipleship?