

A MEAL WITH JESUS

“A Meal with a Pharisee”

Pastor Michael Lee
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Luke 11:37-44 (ESV)

THE REAL PROBLEM (vv. 39-40)

Observing rules and regulations outwardly but not being transformed by the _____ inwardly.

- Outward piety and inward depravity are irreconcilable to God.
- KEY QUESTION: Am I changing on the inside?

LESSONS ON CLEANING THE CUP (vv. 41-43)

1. God is more concerned with _____ (inside) than what I do (outside) (v. 41-42).

- God is more concerned with my inner attitudes towards God and other people than he is with me keeping a list of do's and don'ts.
- Every outward act for God must stem from an inner love for him. It is inside-out transformation that God seeks.
- The right thing, with the wrong heart, is a wrong thing (Joel 2:12-13).

2. Outward piety does not necessarily indicate a _____ with God.

- I can keep a long list of rules and regulations for God yet remain unaffected by God.

3. Outward piety that is void of inward transformation can lead to _____ (v. 43).

- Spiritual hypocrisy is the performance of religious piety with the intent of giving a phony appearance of true faith when, actually, God is absent in my life.
- God can handle my flaws. He just wants me to be honest about them, not fake piety in an attempt to fool others.
- Jesus invites me to drop the mask. God already knows what's behind the mask and he still accepts me. I am secure in his love. Thus, it is safe for me to abandon the pretense, admit my need, and ask God to transform me from the inside out.

CENTRAL TRUTH

God seeks inward transformation over outward piety.

** Today's message will be available on CD next week in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermons are also available on CD and viewable online at www.ynccla.org/sermons.

