CHRIST SPEAKS OF THE INWARD <u>CLEANSING</u> OR <u>BAPTISM</u> OF THE HEART

A Compilation From—Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23; Luke 11:37-40 and Matthew 23:25,26.

"Then the Scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus saying, 'Why do your disciples transgress the traditions of the elders? For they do not wash (ritually) their hands when they eat bread'...And when the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He (Christ) had not first BAPTIZED (literaltranslation) before dinner...For the Pharisees and all the Jews, except they BAPTIZE (literal-translation) themselves, they do not eat...and practice the BAPTISMS (literal-translation) of cups, and pots, and brazen vessels, and couches...And the Lord said to him, 'Now do you Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and platter, but your INWARD PART is full of ravening and wickedness. You fools, did not He (God), that made that which is OUTSIDE, make that which is INSIDE also?' (in other words, they needed to be baptized on the inside)...This people honors Me with their lips, but their *HEART* is far from Me, and in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrine the commandments (such as ritual baptisms) of men...That which comes out of the man is what defiles him. For from WITHIN out of the *HEART* of man, proceeds evil...and defiles the man...Thou blind Pharisees, *CLEANSE* first that which is *WITHIN* (i.e., get baptized on the inside)...and the OUTSIDE will be clean as well."