

Lord you have brought scandal to the Pharisees

When Jesus went public with the pettifogging purists and seriously weakened their standing with the public the disciples pointed out the serious loss of face of the Pharisees. "They are stumbled", said the disciples. They fell right into a trap.

The Father's plants

Jesus reply was, "Every little transplant which my Father has not planted will be rooted out." The LORD was referring to seeds as opposed to weeds. It is as if the Father takes His word and transplants it into lives right down the years of history. We are to think of the PROPHETIC WORD which the LORD had quoted as just such a transplant which would promote true worship and correct outward show not only in the time of Isaiah but in Jesus' day and even today. "They are blind anyway" and bound to fall into a pit"

Peter's request for clarity

"Talk us through" this parable, Lord,' said Peter. "Shed some light on it" Jesus said, "Are you at this point of "crew preparation" (Greek *ακμη*) without the united understanding to grasp this? Have you together not got to thinking it out? Then He pointed out that food is dealt with and waste product expelled in the draught. There is no impurity left in the system. It is different with speech and attitudes-they are born of hearts far from pure

Seven legions that march from the unsanctified heart

Evil thoughts in dialogue; murders; adulteries; fornications; thefts; habitual false witness; blasphemies, these are like soldiers marching out of the citadel of the impure heart to take over the world and to drag down righteousness and faith and love and peace. Each of these sins is mentioned in the plural because they are repeated again and again in the heart that has not known the cleansing blood-they become un-arrested habits.

The dialogue of thoughts suggests that in the mind the Evil One has access to the inner sanctum and that Diabolus has taken ear and eye gate and overwhelmed Mr Conscience Mr Will and Mr Understanding.



From Paper to Practice

When Jesus speaks about a "transplant" cultivated by the Father what is He speaking about? Does the LORD expect us to teach one another? Would He approve of home bible studies? Sinning is a serial condition; it is repetitive, habitual. Have you trouble with any of these? Try Psalm 24.6 seeking God's face- till the "mighty God" of Peniel weakens and strengthens you (Gen 32.31). Moses had made this his experience too-Penuel "Our face of God" Gen32.32 and so did David and Isaiah.