

Beware of Religion

Mark 7.1-23

religion is dangerous –

it can keep us from God vs 6-8

1. Their Flawed Teaching, vs 9-13

- *they had elevated human traditions above God's commands vs 8,9,13*
- *a simple example vs 10-12
the search for loopholes*
- *beware of seeking excuses
true love always obeys
John 14.15,21,23; Jas 1.22-27*
- *beware of religious traditions
be thoroughly biblical*

2. Their Faulty Hearts, vs 14-23

- *"far from God" v6
more concerned with externals
than with internals vs 3-4,23
1 Sam 16.7*

- **the human heart – source of our desires, ambitions, values, decisions, affections, commitment levels**
- **its condition – vs 21-22**
“deceitful, beyond cure” Jer 17.9
- **we all need a new heart!**
only Jesus can supply one
Ezek 36.26-27
his own Holy Spirit
- **all we need to do is ask**
Luke 11.11-13; Rev 3.20
- **the result**
 - **a new sincerity in our worship**
 - **a new sense of responsibility towards other people**
 - **a new seriousness in our attitude to God’s Word**

Do you have a new heart?

Do you need a new heart?