

A close-up photograph of hands being washed under running water. The water is clear and cascades over the fingers. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white, suggesting a clean, bright environment. A dark blue banner is overlaid horizontally across the center of the image, containing the text "Gospel of Mark: Clean" in a white, serif font. There are several white, circular, bubble-like effects scattered across the image, particularly around the hands and the banner.

Gospel of Mark: Clean

Clean and Unclean

Mark 7:1 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and ² saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed.

Clean and Unclean

³ The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴ When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.

Clean and Unclean

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?"

Where does the problem of man lie?

Why exactly do we deal with guilt?

Mark 7:14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

Where does the problem of man lie?

¹⁵ Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'"



Where does the problem of man lie?

Why exactly do we deal with shame?

An inside look into inside uncleanness

Mark 7:20 He went on: "What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.' ²¹ For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

An inside look into inside uncleanness

²² greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"

The outside to inside fix?

Mark 7:1 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and ² saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed.

The outside to inside fix?

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?"

The outside to inside fix?

Jeremiah 2:20 "Long ago you broke off your yoke and tore off your bonds; you said, 'I will not serve you!' Indeed, on every high hill and under every spreading tree you lay down as a prostitute.

The outside to inside fix?

²¹ I had planted you like a choice vine of sound and reliable stock. How then did you turn against me into a corrupt, wild vine? ²² Although you wash yourself with soda and use an abundance of soap, the stain of your guilt is still before me, declares the Sovereign LORD.



God cleanses us!

Jeremiah 33:8 I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

God cleanses us!

⁹ And this city shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them; they shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.



God cleanses us!

Zechariah 3:3 Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel.

A close-up photograph of a hand being washed in water. The hand is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the frame, with water splashing around it. The background is a deep, dark blue, creating a serene and spiritual atmosphere. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the movement of the water.

God cleanses us!

⁴ The angel said to those who were standing before him,
"Take off his filthy clothes."

A pair of hands is shown being washed in water. The hands are cupped together, and water is splashing around them. The background is a dark blue gradient. The text is overlaid on the image.

God cleanses us!

...Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, ..."

A pair of hands is cupped together, holding a small, light-colored object. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The background is a solid, dark blue color. The overall image has a soft, ethereal quality.

God cleanses us!

"...and I will put rich garments on you."



God cleanses us!

⁵ Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by.



God cleanses us!

⁸ "Listen, O high priest Joshua and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch.

God cleanses us!

⁹ See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.

God cleanses us!

Revelation 19:6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

A close-up photograph of a hand being washed with water, symbolizing cleansing. The hand is held under a stream of water, and the water is splashing around it. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

God cleanses us!

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.



God cleanses us!

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."
(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

A close-up photograph of hands being washed under a stream of water. The water is clear and bubbly, with several white bubbles visible. The hands are cupped together, and the water is flowing over them. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white, suggesting an outdoor setting like a beach or a shower. A dark blue horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text.

Gospel of Mark: Clean