

# Digging Deeper in the Spiritual Life

Matthew 15:1-20

Jesus Teaches about Inner Purity

# MATTHEW 14

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A STUDY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW



**Matthew 15:1-20 NLT**

## **Tradition vs. Commandement**

**1 Some Pharisees and teachers of religious law now arrived from Jerusalem to see Jesus.**

**Sadducees: in charge of Temple Worship**

**Pharisees: custodians of the laws & traditions**

**Scribes: Copied the Law & taught it.**

They asked Him,

2 Why do Your disciples disobey  
our age-old tradition?

For they ignore our tradition of  
ceremonial hand washing before they eat.”

3 Jesus replied,  
“And why do you, by your traditions,  
violate the direct Commandments of God?

- 4 For instance, God says,  
**'Honor your father and mother,'**  
and 'Anyone who speaks disrespectfully  
of father or mother must be put to death.'
- 5 But you say it is all right for people  
to say to their parents, 'Sorry, I can't help you.  
For I have vowed to give to God (**Korban**)  
what I would have given to you.'

**“Korban”** vow to give all their money to God after they die, but they can use it until then.

6 In this way,  
you say they don't need to honor their parents.

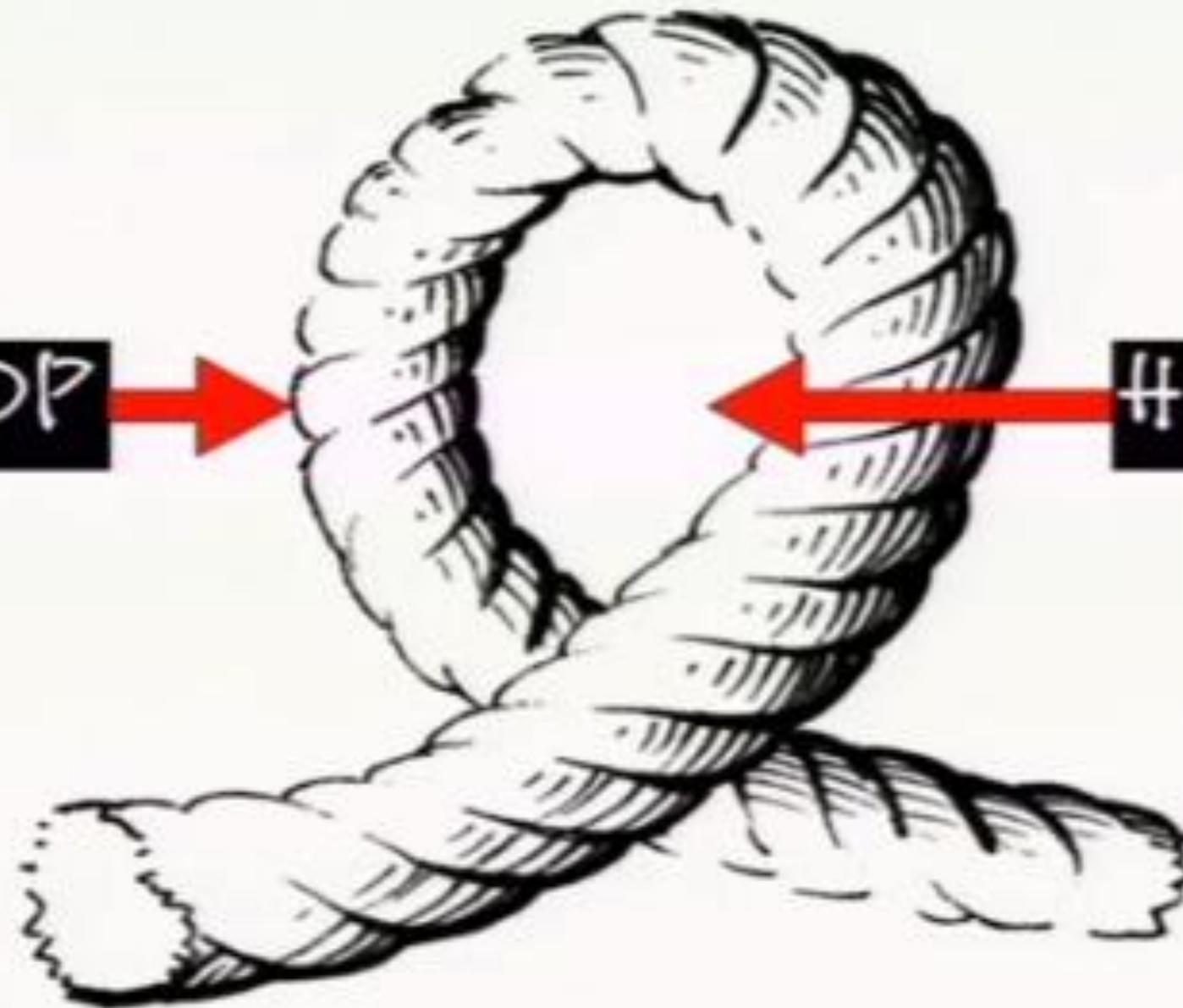
And so you cancel the Word of God  
for the sake of your own tradition.



LOOP



HOLE



**SO SCHOOL IS PRACTICE FOR LIFE,  
AND PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.**



**BUT IF NO ONE'S PERFECT,  
WHY SHOULD YOU PRACTICE?**



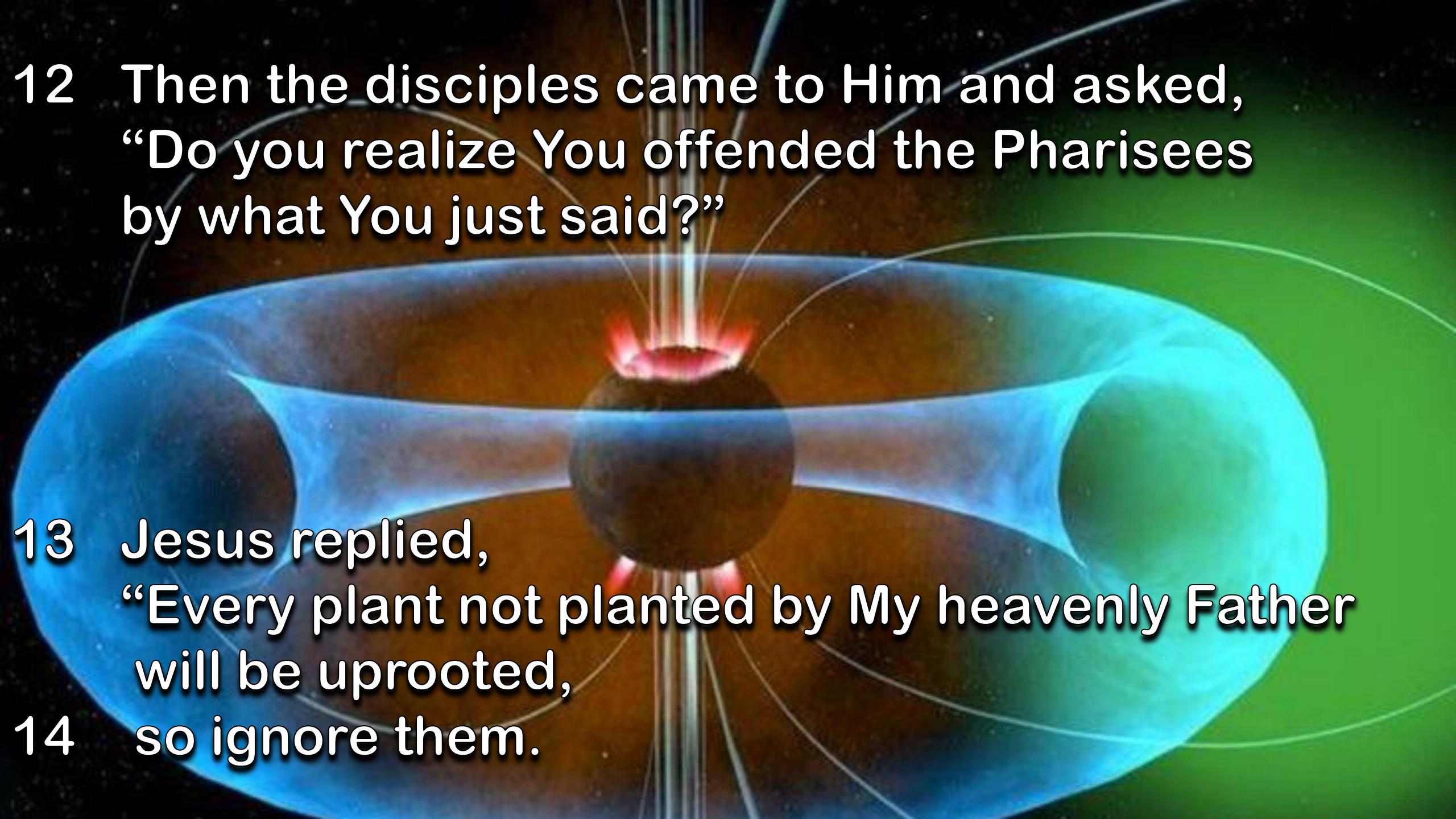
- 7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote,
- 8 ‘These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.
- 9 Their worship is a farce,  
for they teach man-made ideas  
as commands from God.’”

Isaiah 15:7-9

10 Then Jesus called to the crowd to come & hear.

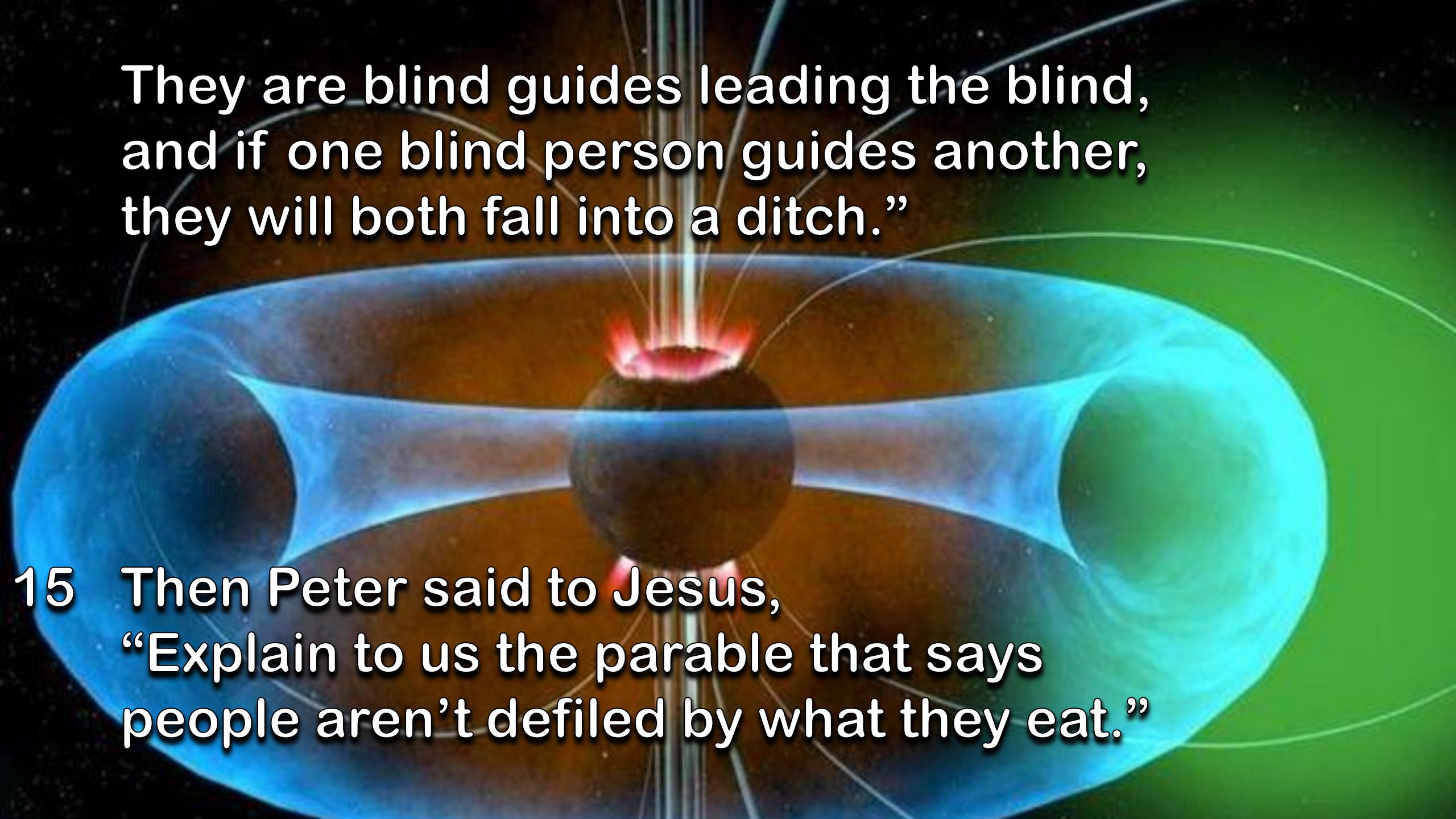
“Listen,” He said, “and try to understand.

11 It’s not what goes into your mouth  
that defiles you;  
you are defiled by  
the words that come out of your mouth.”



12 Then the disciples came to Him and asked,  
“Do you realize You offended the Pharisees  
by what You just said?”

13 Jesus replied,  
“Every plant not planted by My heavenly Father  
will be uprooted,  
14 so ignore them.



They are blind guides leading the blind,  
and if one blind person guides another,  
they will both fall into a ditch.”

15 Then Peter said to Jesus,  
“Explain to us the parable that says  
people aren’t defiled by what they eat.”

- 16 “Don’t you understand yet?” Jesus asked.
- 17 “Anything you eat passes through the stomach and then goes into the sewer.
- 18 But the words you speak come from the heart—that’s what defiles you.

19 For from the heart come evil thoughts,  
murder, adultery, all sexual immorality,  
theft, lying, and slander.

20 These are what defile you.  
Eating with unwashed hands  
will never defile you.”

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