

For the Love of an Imperative Verb Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

add translations and comments

¹⁰Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, “**Listen** [ἀκούετε, **akóuete**] and **understand** [συνίετε, **syníete**]; ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴**Let** them **alone** [ἄφετε, **áphete**]; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “**Explain** [φράσον, **phráson**] this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²**Just then** [ἰδοὺ, **idou**] a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “**Have mercy** [ἐλέησον, **elēēsón**] on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “**Send** her **away** [ἀπόλυσον, **apólyson**], for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, **help** [βοήθει, **boēthei**] me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! **Let it be done** [γενηθήτω, **genēthētō**] for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly. [NRSV⁸⁹]

15:10

ἀκούετε, **akóuete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2nd pers pl* from ἀκούω

translations: **listen** [NRSV⁸⁹, NGEINT], also **hear** [ESV, NAB], **oíd** [IAdNT]

συνίετε, **syníete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2nd pers pl* from συνίημι

translations: **understand** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NGEINT], also **entended** [IAdNT]

15:14

ἄφετε, **áphete**; *vb: 2nd aor act imperative 2nd pers pl* from ἀφίημι

translations: **let . . . alone** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB], also **leave** [NGEINT], **dejad** [IAdNT]

15:15

φράσον, **phráson**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers sg* from φράζω

translations: **explain** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT], also **explica** [IAdNT]

15:22

ἰδοῦ, **idoû**; *vb: 2nd aor mid imperative 2nd pers sg* from ὁράω

translations: **just then** [NRSV89], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT], **he aqui** [IAdNT]

ἐλέησον, **eléēsón**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers sg*

translations: **have mercy** [NRSV89, ESV, NGEINT], also **have pity** [NAB], **ten compasión** [IAdNT]

15:23

ἀπόλυσον, **apólyson**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers sg* from ἀπολύω

translations: **send . . . away** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB], **send away** [NGEINT], also **despide** [IAdNT]

15:25

βοήθει, **boēthei**; *vb: pres act imperative 2nd pers sg* from βοηθέω

translations: **help** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT], also **ayuda** [IAdNT]

15:28

γενηθήτω, **genēthētō**; *vb: aor pass imperative 3rd pers sg* from γίνομαι

translations: **let . . . be done** [NRSV89, NAB, NGEINT], **be it done** [ESV], also **que suceda** [IAdNT]

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Gene Crossett, Jr.
February 17, 2023
March 18, 2023