THE DANGER OF BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION AND THE <u>NEED FOR RELATIONSHIP</u> *Matthew* 12:43-50

I. Unclean Spirits <u>Dwell</u> In <u>Unbelievers</u> And Travel To And Fro – vs. 43-44a Mark 1:23-26

Mark 5:2, 13

Mark 7:25, 29-30

II. <u>Empty</u>, Swept And Put In Order - vs. 44b

Kosmeō - beautify, make attractive, decorate, dress, put in order

Matthew 23:25-27

Matthew 23:15

III. Modified Behavior Without Christ Is Deadly - vs. 45

2 Peter 2:20-22

Luke 18:10-13

Luke 5:30-32

IV. Relationship That We Must Have - vs. 46-50

Matthew 13:55 John 7:1-5 Acts 1:14 Luke 11:27-28 Romans 8:12-17 Galatians 4:3-7

Closing Thought: It is very dangerous, even deadly, to assume that because one has modified their behavior, cleaned up their act, they are right with God. If they are not indwelled by The Holy Spirit, then they are empty and susceptible to even greater sin in the future.

Salvation does not come by any relationship other than adoption by God, through Christ, into His family.