

arrogance, and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"<sup>25</sup>

Further on, the means for overcoming the effects of sin on interpersonal communication will be treated. Following immediately, are some other causes of poor communication.

#### Communication - A Matter of Understanding

There are situations where the hearts of the parties involved are set on the same high purposes and yet communication breaks down. In such cases, signals are transmitted and received but something happens in the decoding process; the message is misinterpreted and thus is misunderstood.

One of the most vivid examples of misunderstanding in sacred history is recorded in Joshua chapter 22. The Reubenites, Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh had been granted permission to settle east of the Jordan. The one stipulation was that they were to join fully in the conquest of the land west of the Jordan until the land was fully in Israel's control. This they did. Joshua 22 begins with Joshua's words to the two and one-half tribes after the battle for the land was over:

You have done all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded, and you have obeyed me in every thing I commanded. For a long time now - to this very day - you have not deserted your brothers but have carried out the mission the Lord your God gave you. Now that the Lord your God has given your brothers rest as he promised, return to your homes in the land that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you on the other side of

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<sup>25</sup> Mark 7:20-23