

Traditions
Mark 7:8-9
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show what the Bible says about traditions and what traditions some in the world are following.

Intro:

1. When you hear the phrase “traditions of men” what comes to your mind?
2. Not all traditions are bad but some will separate you from God.

I. Warnings of Christ about Traditions.

A. **Matthew 15:1-14**

1. These men, as Christ points out, were more concerned with their manmade traditions than true obedience.

2. **Mark 7:1-4,8-9**

B. A warning (**Col 2:8**)

1. We are warned about being cheated. Its interesting this is the term used because heaven or salvation is referred to as our “reward”. Obviously no one wants to be cheated out a reward, included a spiritual one.
2. The warning hear is about the many things that can cheat a person of their reward, including traditions.

II. Traditions often seen today

1. Two heads Christ & the Pope
 - a. Fallible men vote a man in as Pope and he becomes infallible, according to tradition.
- b. Col 1:18**
2. Mary has a special connection to Christ so we can pray to her.
 - a. Christ is our mediator, Him and no other
- b. 1 Tim 2:5**
3. Sprinkling or Pour is a valid form of baptism
 - a. **Col 2:12**
4. Synods (Lutheran) and conventions are forms of church government
 - a. The Bible shows churches as autonomous
 - b. Each having its own leaders; Elders, Deacons, members
- c. Phil 1:1**
5. Creed books and articles of faith should be accepted.
 - a. God’s Word provides all we need (**2 Tim 3:16-17**)

III. Lessons for us today.

- A. Religious traditions contrary to scriptures should be avoided.
 1. Christ warns us about such traditions as we saw back in Mt 15.
 2. If it is contrary to scripture it should be avoided regardless if it’s a tradition or not.
- B. Some traditions are good and do not contradict scripture.
 1. Some traditions like annual gospel meetings, annual lectureships, etc are good.
 2. Not all traditions are bad or contrary to scriptures. Those that promote spiritual growth

should be encouraged.

Conc:

1. Let us remember that we must compare all things to the scriptures (**Acts 17:11**)
2. Traditions of men that disagree with God's word have no place in the church.

Hear

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Believe

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Repent

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Confess

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Be baptized

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Remain Faithful

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.