

Traditions of Men

Those Pesky Things That Got Jesus Crucified

Mark 7:1-4

In the ministry of Jesus, it would be impossible not to notice the immense destructive power of the traditions of men. They easily arise, develop, and squeeze out the truth. Perhaps the most illustrative biblical account exposing this insidious malady is found in **Matthew 15:1-20 and Mark 7:1-23** during a meal eaten with unwashed hands. Let's have a close look. This is very important.

The Meal Eaten With Unwashed Hands

- The traditions of men have jealous guardians
- Longevity and personalities are major forces behind the traditions of men
- Jesus was always in an attack mode when encountering the traditions of men
- Jesus' quotation of Isaiah demonstrates the recurring nature of the traditions of men
- The traditions of men distort Scripture
- The traditions of men displace Scripture
- The traditions of men hamper the work of God
- The traditions of men promote self-righteousness
- The traditions of men cause strife
- The traditions of men lead to condemnation
- The traditions of men deserve to be called out publicly
- Simple common sense often exposes the folly of the traditions of men
- Scripture always exposes the unjustified nature of the traditions of men
- The heart is the place of God's chief concern
- Men are inclined to look outwardly, not so with God (I Sam. 16:1-12)

The traditions of men must be avoided at all costs. Scripture, common sense, and courage are their chief enemies. Pride, ignorance, and fear are their most powerful allies. Let us stand courageously with Jesus!

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