The Rules of Man

Greg Kline · Matthew 15:1–9

INTRODUCTION

- Matthew 15 is clear that traditions of men can have supplanted the word of God.
- The question that always matters is not, have people before us done it? But why did they do it?
- There is one way to know you're pleasing to God, and that's to stick with exactly what he has told us to do.

1 Why Do You Break the Commandment of God?

Matthew 15:1–9; Matthew 23; Matthew 12:1–14

- Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.
- He answered them, then why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?
- Even though they knew where it originated, they thought that they had equal authority.
- If you consider that multiple times Jesus had no regard for the traditions of men, then you understand that Jesus did not have to follow the commandments of men.

2 Corban: Making Void the Word of God

Mark 7:9–13; Matthew 15:8–9

- The problem was they had so elevated it that they made it equal with the law of God, with the law of Moses.
- You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition.
- A good natured idea, perhaps, dedicating things to God, had completely corrupted the idea of what God truly intended, which is for children to take care of parents.
- This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

3 How We Would Fall Prey to Traditions of Men

- If our hearts are soft, if our mind is open and we seek to please God, we will care only for and strive to please God exactly as he has commanded us to.
- They can result in vain worship and even lead to hypocritical service.
- One might be we do things because we always have done them that way.

4 Traditions in the Bible

2 Thessalonians 2:14–15; Galatians 1:14; Colossians 2:8

- Stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by a letter.
- These traditions are essential because they are given by God.

- See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit according to human tradition.
- Not only do they violate the will of God, they don't do any good.

5 Is God's Word Final?

- It doesn't matter what men did, it matters what God has put forward.
- Is God's word final? Is it complete? If it is, who are we to change it?
- The time to evaluate what we do as God's people is today.

6 Is It From God or From Man?

Matthew 21:23–27; 1 John 1:8

- Don't accept the status quo. Don't do things just because they're okay.
- You filter through two questions. Why do we do this? And secondly, Is it from God or is it from man?
- The baptism of John, from where did it come from? From heaven? Or from man?
- We need to be careful not to establish a new tradition.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **If we leave the will of God, we'll have no one to blame but ourselves when we turn around and see that God has never moved.**

MY NOTES