

Scripture & Tradition

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 23

Scripture text – Mark 7:1-13

Introduction

- A “tradition” is an inherited, established or customary _____ of thought, action or behavior.
- Life would be _____ without traditions; they permeate our lives.
- They also play a big role in our _____ lives.

Explanation

- By the “traditions of the elders,” Jesus meant the accumulated interpretations & applications of the divine _____ that had been developed over centuries.
- The Law *does* prescribe ceremonial handwashing, but only for _____ in the performance of certain religious duties (see Exodus 30:17-21).
- Over time, ceremonial handwashing became mandatory for _____.

Problem

- There’s nothing _____ with ceremonial handwashing as a symbolic reminder of the necessity of being clean & holy when approaching God.
- What Jesus objected to was:
 1. The traditions had been raised to the level of _____;
 2. Overtime, many of the traditions had actually _____ Scripture; and
 3. The traditions had turned religion into mere external _____ to certain rules & practices, leaving the _____ unaffected.

Principle

- Traditions are helpful for living a _____ life.
- They are permissible, even beneficial, provided 3 things are true:
 1. They do not _____ with Scripture;
 2. Your performance of them does not determine your _____ as a person or your _____ with God; and

3. You do not _____ them on others.

Application

- Pertaining to worship during the pandemic:
 1. The biblical command is that we _____ one another.
 2. The at-large deacons were not seeking to impose _____ that command must be carried out.
 3. And yet, this doesn't let anyone off the hook in terms of the _____ of the command.

Conclusion

- What is remarkable about this passage is Jesus' astonishingly high view of _____. He faced _____ with Scripture.