

Mark 7:9

He said to them, "All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition."

I am surprised at how many people on Social Media actually live this verse. Take Christmas for example. This is a man-made holiday and a man-made tradition that even Christians will defend like it's the gospel truth. I'm not talking about celebrating Jesus' birthday, because we do not know when He was born, and I have no problem with that. Yet many people, including some Christians will start to get mean and evil if someone calls it the "Holidays" or writes "Merry Xmas" saying they are taking Jesus out of it.

So are you getting upset and attacking the lost because part of a man-made Title (Christmas), Holiday or Tradition?

If you really want to get upset, it should not be that someone is taking the name of Christ out of a man-made word (Christmas) but rather you should be upset how the name of Jesus is used in TV shows, Movies, songs, social media, etc.. as a curse word and your entertainment.

They do the same with "God" which is a title and not a name, yet how many will use it as a curse word, and it's not referring to any old god, but the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The God who created all things. Yet how many Christians sit there and watch TV shows and Movies without even giving it a second thought. But they will say, just don't call it Xmas, because you are now attacking my favorite Holiday and Tradition (even though it's not biblical).

Let's get away from Holidays and look at life itself. How often are two people living together outside of marriage acceptable because it is now the "tradition" in the world, yet God calls it sin? How many things are even we as Christians allowing into our homes to be our entertainment, yet God calls it sin. Kill that person, watch nudity, sex and rape in a movie, listen to constant cursing as my entertainment, overeating, overspending, me before others, I'm just too busy with me that I don't have time to do in the church...

The "traditions" of sin has crept into the church and our lives, and what's worse is so many Christians defend it, simply because it's part of the plot, or it adds to the story. Some think that, I deserve it, I work hard, and I don't have time for church stuff because I am too busy with my family, and my TV shows, and my stuff, and...

Think about it, how many things are you wanting to defend as you are reading this, that is actually not in the bible, or that God calls sin? Judge not or you will be judged is the go-to excuse, yes I said excuse, because Jesus did not say, *"Judge not, that you be not judged."* **Matthew 7:1** so people could use it as an excuse to keep sinning.

"Wow, this is a pretty harsh teaching, I don't like it" you may be thinking.

I can not apologize for the truth of God's word, and I believe that today's verse really speaks on these things, read it again for yourself and tell me if you think I am wrong: ***"All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition."*** And if you do, give a biblical reason for it, not your opinion, or what you think is right.

I was listening to a teaching by Pastor Chuck Smith the other day on the book of Acts and how he was saying that when Paul was first saved, that the first few places that he went to preaching the gospel, they literally wanted to, and actually tried to kill him, all because he spoke the truth and people didn't want the truth, they wanted to keep living the way they where, and when your lifestyle is questioned, people will fight for the lie that they are living instead of stopping and listening to the truth, and will even reject the truth to maintain a life of sin.

Maybe it's time to really examine our (yes I am including myself in this) hearts and the things we do and even defend and search the scriptures and find out if they are true, or have we been defending Traditions and Lies!

† **Mark 7:6-7** *He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'* "

† **Isaiah 29:13** *Therefore the LORD said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men."*