

Truth vs. Tradition

Christians are involved in a great battle today. It is the war of words, man's word against God's word. What God has said and is saying in the Holy Scriptures versus what man is saying and has been saying for centuries. Tradition is one of the great enemies of Truth. Jesus said this to the Scribes and Pharisees about their tradition in **Matthew 15:9** and in **Mark 7:8-9, 13**.

Traditions that have been established through the ministry of the Word of God are good and acceptable by the Lord. **(2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:6)** The Scriptures are not of any private interpretation. **(2 Peter 1:20)** What the Scripture says to one person, they say to every person. What God requires of one person, He requires of every person.

He is no respecter of persons. **(Acts 10:34)** The inspired Word of God is always right. If you believe something that contradicts the Word of God, you will always be wrong. If what you believe cannot be scrutinized by the Scriptures, throw it away and run from it.

Many things are taught in churches today by men who have **NOT** been called of God. What they teach and preach contradicts the Scriptures. **(Romans 10:15, John 3:34)** The Scripture said to beware of man-made ideology and tradition. **(Colossians 2:8)**

Many church goers have been taught “**wrong**” things for many years because they don't know or understand the Scriptures. They don't study the Scriptures. **(2 Timothy 2:15)** Jesus said, “***My sheep know my voice.***” **(John 10:4-5)** The voice of God is the Word of God. **(Psalms 103:20)**

We can read in the Word of God how God feels about man following his own heart rather than the His Words. **(Proverbs 14:12, 21:2-3, 3:5-6)**

Knowing the difference between falsehood and Truth will determine the success of your life with God. **(Matthew 11:28)**

The yoke of commitment to study, to learn, and to get an understanding of the will and purpose of God for your life is very important. **(2 Peter 3:18)** We are to grow in grace and in knowledge.

Growth produces change.

When you change the way, you look at things, the way you look at things changes. When the presence of God comes into your life, everything about you begins to change:

- **your lifestyle,**
- **the way you look,**
- **the way you talk,**
- **the clothes you wear,**
- **the places you go, and**
- **the people you associate with.**

In short, your environment of persons, places, and things are affected by Truth. The Truth affects every part of your life. **(2 Corinthians 5:17)**

When you know something, it is in your head; but when you have learned something, it is in your heart. **(Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 12:34)**

If we become unwilling to change, we create the inability to learn and to grow spiritually. God will not give us knowledge beyond our willingness to obey Truth presented to us.

Our fellowship with God depends upon our walking with Him in Truth. **(1 John 1:7)** This is why what we learn and are taught affects the way we live and our lifestyle so much. When the teaching of Truth is diluted with manmade ideologies, it produces weak and unstable faith in God.

We must teach and preach what has always been taught in the Scriptures to avoid confusion and division. **(1 Corinthians 1:10)** God is not the author of confusion. **(1 Corinthians 14:33)**

The word **“doctrine”** simply means **“that which is taught”**. **(Acts 2:37-39,42)**

**If you do what you’ve always done,
You will get what you’ve always got. (1 Timothy 4:16)**

Not only will you be saved, but your family, your loved ones, your friends, your coworkers, and all those you share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with will be saved as well.

The Scripture tells us not to follow anyone who has **NOT** been called and chosen by the Lord. **(Romans 16:17-18, Galatians 1:6-9)**

There have always been false prophets throughout the Bible. Jesus said that during the last days generation of AD 30- AD 70, there were many false prophets. **(Matthew 24:11)**

So, it is today, there are many false preachers and teachers that speak lies and falsehoods.

These are deceivers that rely on the fact that sincere-hearted people, who listen to them, will not read and study their Bible to fact check their teachings.

Right is right even if everyone is against it; wrong is wrong even if everyone is for it.

The Truth that makes men free is for the most part the Truth which men prefer **NOT** to hear.

Tradition is a great enemy of Truth. The things that we hear over and over again are familiar to us because that is what has always been taught and believed, even though it is untrue.

For many church people, familiarity with what has always been believed is easier to follow than to fact check their preachers. **(1 Thessalonians 5:21, Acts 17:11)**

The input of information will determine the output of your life. Many times, the person who seeks to share the Truth with someone is often considered to be the worst kind of enemy to church people because Truth is challenging.

It challenges what has always been taught and believed and it challenges the people who always taught it. The Apostle Paul states this in **Galatians 4:16**.

In a time today of so many churches teaching so many different doctrines and so much deception, falsehood is easy to receive, and Truth is so difficult to receive.

Truth hurts, not the searching for the Truth, but the running from Truth. It is not so much what people know that hurts, but it's what they know that is untrue that hurts.

To be ignorant and not know the facts is one thing, but to be willingly ignorant and not wanting to know what Truth is, this is very sad.

Truth does not change because it is or is not believed by a majority of the people. It is the property of no individual but is the **TREASURE** of all men.

Conclusion

When a well-packaged web of lies and deception have been sold gradually to masses of people over generations, when the Truth is spoken; it will seem utterly preposterous, and the speaker of Truth viewed as one who has **“gone off the deep end”**.

The Bible makes a very clear statement about this in **Romans 3:3-4**. Believe what you know and know what you believe. Make sure it is based on facts that will never change book, chapter, and verse and by written example of:

- **Person,**
- **Place, and thing or**
- **Event in the Bible.**

See: Matthew 24:35, Psalms 118:89, Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 1 Peter 1:25.

The commonality of the Bible is what it says to one, it says to all: **past, present, and future.**

What it requires of one, it requires of all: past, present, and future. The voice of God is the Word of God. (**Psalms 103:20, Jeremiah 3:13,25, Daniel 9:10**)

Truth is everlasting and has been preserved for us in the Word of God.

The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the Truth that God has revealed to us because of fear of Church policy, we become silent when we know that we should speak.

That's when the divine floods of light and life will no longer flow into our souls. Truth is a great gift that has been given to us to share.

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