

Teach Us
Matthew 15:1-9; Titus 2:1-6
Bible Study - December 12, 2023
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Homiletical Outline

I. Matthew anticipates the rejection of Jesus by Israel through a series of contrasting responses to His ministry. Here, we see Jesus's response to the Pharisees questioning his disciples (Matt. 15:1-9).

A. Pharisees Question (vs. 1-2)

1. The Pharisees were a group (sect) within the Jewish community that developed a tradition of strict interpretation of the Mosaic law, developing an extensive set of oral extensions of the law designed to maintain religious identity and purity.

2. Traditions of the Elders – It wasn't that Jesus disciples didn't wash their hands; it was that they didn't participate in the ritual created by the Elders when it comes to washing their hands (Mark 7:3-4).

a. Traditions – the content of that has been handed down.

1) the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation, or the fact of being passed on in this way.

2) an inherited or established way of thinking, feeling, or doing.

3) any kind of teaching, written or spoken, handed down from generation to generation.

B. Jesus's Response (vs. 3-9)

1. The dangers of traditionalism:

a. Traditions can make us _____ the commandments of God.

1) Transgress – break, disobey, go aside

2) Jesus gives an example of the way the sin against God (vs. 4-5)

b. Traditions can make us _____ the Word of God.

1) Invalidate – make void, revoke

a) Make or prove something to be unsound or erroneous (wrong or incorrect)

b) Make an official document or procedure no

longer legally valid.

c. Traditions can make us _____ God's Word for man's precepts.

1) Precepts – that which is commanded as an officially binding commandment.

II. Paul's words to Titus are to stay away from those who teach false doctrine (Titus 1:10-16), instead, he is to teach what is sound (Titus 2:1-8).

A. Characteristics of the Older Men (vs. 1-2)

1. Though the word for older simply means aged or elderly, the context and characteristics that follow seem to show Paul uses the term here to speak of those who are mature in the faith (Hebrews 5:14)

2. These things that Paul was stressing to Titus to teach were those of sound doctrine.

a. Sound Doctrine – teaching that is free from error, correct. Literally healthy teaching.

3. Temperate – pertaining to being very moderate in the drinking of an alcoholic beverage, sober-minded.

4. Dignified – pertaining to evoking special respect

a. Human beings worthy of respect/honor, noble, serious-minded.

5. Sensible – pertaining to being in control of oneself, prudent, thoughtful, self-controlled

6. An older (mature) man should be someone who, in their walk have consistently demonstrated three essential qualities of the Christian life which are faith, love, perseverance.

a. Perseverance – the capacity to hold out or bear up in the face of difficulty, patience, endurance, fortitude, steadfastness

B. Characteristics and teachings of the Older Women (vs. 3-5)

1. Reverent in their behavior

a. Reverent – venerable (someone who is accorded a great deal of respect, especially because of age, wisdom, or character.).

2. Not malicious gossips

3. Not enslaved to much wine

4. Teaching what is good

5. The results of having these characteristics were that they could teach younger women:

a. Teach young (young, not as mature) women to love their husbands and children

b. Sensible - pertaining to being in control of oneself, prudent, thoughtful, self-controlled

c. Pure – innocent, holy

- d. Workers at home
 - e. Kind - pertaining to meeting a high standard of worth and merit, good
 - f. Being subject to their own husbands
 - g. By showing these qualities, younger women would not dishonor God's word but rather bring honor to it.
- C. Teaching of older men to younger men (vs. 6)

a. Sensible - pertaining to being in control of oneself, prudent, thoughtful, self-controlled

III. Biblical Principles & Applications

A. Principles

1. God's commandments are to be held above man's tradition.
2. Our character should exhibit the character of God so that we can teach others to do the same.

B. Applications

1. In what ways have you taught your own traditions over God's word?
Ask God for forgiveness and go back and teach what his word says.
2. This week ask God to search and reveal to you which characteristics of his that you are failing to show.
3. Are you currently discipling someone younger in the faith? If not, ask God to use you in this area.