[**www.scatteredchristians.org**](http://www.scatteredchristians.org)  
The entire King James Bible is written FOR us, but it is not all written TO us!  
We learn from the "For" and study Paul's writings to apply the 'TO!"  
**Sermon Notes**  
December 7, 2008

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| **Rightly Dividing Christmas** |

Part IV  
**"Tradition"**

Tradition: *Delivery; the act of delivering into the hands of another.  That which is handed down from age to age by oral communication.*

Tradition can be good; true -**II Thessalonians 2:15**  
Can be bad; false - **Matthew 15:3**

If they are taken as equal or above Biblical authority, then they are bad!

Is that tradition to please man, or please God?  
**Galatians 1:10**

**Man's Tradition**

* Holidays
* Christmas traditions and memories, etc.

**Religious Tradition**

* Catholic Church's own quotes about tradition and scripture:
* *Catholics ... believe that true "rule of faith" is Scripture plus apostolic tradition, as manifested in the living teaching authority of the Catholic Church, to which were entrusted the oral teachings of Jesus and the apostles, along with the authority to interpret Scripture correctly.*
* *In the Second Vatican Council’s document on divine revelation, Dei Verbum (Latin: "The Word of God"), the relationship between Tradition and Scripture is explained: "Hence there exists a close connection and communication between sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture. For both of them, flowing from the same divine wellspring, in a certain way merge into a unity and tend toward the same end. For sacred Scripture is the word of God inasmuch as it is consigned to writing under the inspiration of the divine Spirit. To the successors of the apostles, sacred Tradition hands on in its full purity God’s word, which was entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit.*
* *"Thus, by the light of the Spirit of truth, these successors can in their preaching preserve this word of God faithfully, explain it, and make it more widely known. Consequently, it is not from sacred Scripture alone that the Church draws her certainty about everything which has been revealed. Therefore, both sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture are to be accepted and venerated with the same devotion and reverence."*
* *The task is to determine what constitutes authentic tradition. How can we know which traditions are apostolic and which are merely human? The answer is the same as how we know which scriptures are apostolic and which are merely human—by listening to the magisterium or teaching authority of Christ’s Church. Without the Catholic Church’s teaching authority, we would not know with certainty which purported books of Scripture are authentic. If the Church revealed to us the canon of Scripture, it can also reveal to us the "canon of Tradition" by establishing which traditions have been passed down from the apostles.*

**Bible Tradition**

**Gospels**

* + **Matthew 15:1-9**
    - transgress the commandments of God
    - vain worship
    - lip service - no heart
  + **Mark 7:1-13**
    - people would rather keep their own tradition
    - make word of God of none effect because of their tradition

**Paul**

* 1.  Was big on Jewish tradition before saved - **Galatians 1:11-14**
* 2.  Warned Gentiles about the dangers of tradition - **Colossians 2:8**
* 3.  Said tradition will hinder their understanding, etc. -**Ephesians 4:17**
* 4.  Had his own that he wanted to pass down
  + **II Thessalonians 2:15**
  + **Philippians 4:9**
  + **II Timothy 3:10**
* Tells us to withdraw from those who don't follow Paul's tradition, etc.
  + **II Thessalonians 3:6**
* His are not from men!
  + **Galatians 1:11,12**
  + **Ephesians 3:1-7**
  + **II Corinthians 12:1-5**
  + **Acts 9:P15,27**
  + **Acts 22:12,15**
  + **Acts 26:15-18**

**Tribulation**

* **I Peter 1:18** - Tradition blocks salvation