

TRADITION IN RELIGION

Text: Col. 2:8

INTRO: As our text indicates all traditions come from one of two sources. The word "tradition" simply means that which is handed down or handed on from generation to generation.

I. THE GOSPEL WAS HANDED DOWN FROM GOD TO THE APOSTLES & PROPHETS WHO HANDED IT DOWN TO OTHERS.

READ I COR. 11:2, 23; 15:3;

2 Tim. 1:13; 2:2

2 Thess. 2:14-15; 3:6, 14

Gal. 1:6-12

II. HUMAN TRADITIONS MAY BE DIVIDED INTO TWO CLASSES. READ MARK 7:1-13

A. Indifferent traditions; not wrong within themselves.

1. Jews' washing of hands, etc.
2. Mid-week Wednesday night service.

NOTE: The fact that the Bible no where specifies a Wednesday night service, we must not forget what the Bible does teach about making use of our opportunities.

3. Invitation songs.
4. Bible class arrangement.
5. Three songs & a prayer.
6. Some have a tradition of changing.

B. Some traditions are always wrong--contradict plain Bible teaching.

1 Pet. 1:18-19; Gal. 1:13-14

CONCLUSION: Let us take care to zealously uphold that which has

been handed down from God through His apostles & prophets; let us reject all human tradition which is contrary to the gospel; and let us learn in the matter of indifferent traditions not to bind where God has not bound, neither to cause divisions and offences in matters of indifference.

Springhill, LA, December 1, 1974

La Porte, TX, February 29, 1976

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, January

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, March 11, 2001