

Slide 3. Traditions Intro

What Are Traditions?

How do Traditions come about?

Good Traditions can become Bad Traditions

Can Bad Traditions become Good Traditions?

What does the Bible say about Traditions?

What About Christian Traditions?

Slide 4. Text: [Mar 7:5 KJV] 5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

Slide 5. What is a Tradition?

A tradition is a system of beliefs or behaviors passed down within a group of people or society with symbolic meaning or special significance with origins in the past.

A tradition can help maintain continuity between generations, it allows cultures to share their heritage with others, and it can be used to teach people about their history.

Is it wrong follow a tradition created centuries ago to honor false gods when the initial purpose for the tradition is unknown by those who follow these revised traditions in a different way today?

Slide 6. The Church has a History of Altering Traditions relating to Holidays

Christmas {Winter Solstice)

Fall Festival (Halloween, All Hallows Eve)

Easter (Martin Luther)

Slide 7. My view: Did God Implement the Tradition?

The character and actions behind the tradition defines the tradition not the name.

Are your actions carried out in following the tradition for or against God. Are the hearts of those carrying out the actions of the tradition focused on evil or ungodly intent? What focus do you put on following the tradition?

Slide 8. A Biblical Example

[Mar 7:5-8 KJV] 5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands? 6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with [their] lips, but their heart is far from me. 7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men. 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, [as] the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

God did not implement the handwashing tradition. Circumcision was implemented by God but before the law (a few hundred years)

Slide 9-20. Let's Investigate the effects of Traditions

Show pics

Explain Easter Date Differences

Ask About Easter Egg History

What does Easter Egg Hunting mean to Children Today?

Slide 21. In America What's in a Name?

Jesus means "The Lord is Salvation." Christ means, "Messiah" or "Anointed One".

Wayne means "wagon-maker". Wedge was a unique boy's name of English origin. Not much is known about the history of this name. Some believe it nickname and means way. Others conclude it is like the dictionary says "wedge shaped". The first know settler named Wedge in the US was John Wedge who arrived in Maryland in 1651. William Wedge arrived in Virginia in 1717. Arthur means bear. The name can also mean Thor, the eagle, and strong man. The name became popular in the middle ages when King Arthur reigned in the 6th century.

My character, actions and faith defines me before the Lord and before you. Not, my name.

Slide 22. How Do Traditions Come to being?

Human Traditions

Adaptations of other Traditions

Created to Educate and/or Entertain

Can Good Traditions become Bad Traditions?

Bad Habits developed while following Good Traditions.

- **Major Holidays like Christmas and Easter**
- **Come to Church Because that's What you have always done.**

Slide 24. Important Personal Traditions to Develop

[Eph 5:15-21 KJV] 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, 16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord [is]. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Slide 25-27. Test: Does our Tradition cancel or go against the Word of God?

[Mat 15:1-9 KJV] 1 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, 2 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they

eat bread. 3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. 5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to [his] father or [his] mother, [It is] a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; 6 And honour not his father or his mother, [he shall be free]. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. 7 [Ye] hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with [their] lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men.

Slide 28. Hold to the Traditions you have been taught by the Lord

[2Th 2:15 KJV] 15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

What Traditions?

Slide 29. Love God and Others

[Mat 22:37-40 KJV] 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Slide 30. List of Traditions Every Christian Should Practice

Prayer and Fasting

Holy Spirit Filled Worship

Personal Holy Spirit Growth

Caring About and For Others

Think the Right Thoughts

[Phl 4:8-9 KJV] 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Be a person of Prayer

[1Th 5:17 KJV] 17 Pray without ceasing.

Pray according to the Will of God.

[Mat 6:7-9, KJV] 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen [do]: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. ...

Fast: [Mat 6:16-18, 31-33 KJV] 16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

[2Ti 4:2 KJV] 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Seek the Lord in prayer and Bible Study

[Mat 6:31-33 KJV] 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Follow the Golden Rule

[Mat 7:12 KJV] 12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Christian Church Traditions

Preach and Teach the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ as Jesus, Paul, Peter and other Apostles did. (Main Tradition)

Sunday School and Sunday Morning and Evening Worship Services

Wednesday Evening Worship Services

Holy Sacraments (Communion)

Baptism

Holy Communion

Foot Washing Ceremony

Birth of Christ

Palm Sunday

Passion Week

Easter Sunday the Resurrection of Christ