Unveiling of God no 181

Breaking away from Traditions
November 8, 2020
Brian Kocourek, Pastor

This morning we will be examining the thought of breaking from the traditions of man, and how the traditions of man actually make the word of God of no affect upon your life. To begin let's go to Mark chapter 7 and begin our reading at verse 1.

Mark 7:1 Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem. 2 And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault.

First of all I want you to notice that those how found fault found it because their eyes were on the vessels and not upon the Word of God. We showed you last week that when a man has his focus on the vessel, he will always miss the God who is using that vessel. And that is what these Pharisees were, young, inexperienced and carnal.

I say carnal because Paul lets us know in **Romans 8** that when you focus on the vessel you cannot please God, because you are focused on the vessel and not on the God who is using the vessel.

So the Apostle Paul continues, saying in verse...3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. 4 And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables. 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 honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

Oh how they seem to be able to talk the talk, but their lives show they do not walk the walk. He said their heart is far from me, and the word heart refers to their understanding.

Then he says those most notable words, 7 "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

Let's just break this down here of what we just read.

Now, remember it was Jesus who was speaking, and he said "by their own actions," "their own traditions," which are doing things that were outwardly seen, as in traditional things they did, and they were placing more emphasis on those things than they did on God's Word in their worship of God.

Like in some churches if not most, the people spend 45 minutes or more singing songs, and then when they finally open their Bible to read, they will read perhaps just a verse or two and then talk about that verse for 15 minutes or so, and then go back to singing songs again to fill in the rest of their worship time.

So we see to them it is the tradition of music and entertainment that actually receives the preeminence in their worship service, more than the time that is given to the Word of God. We see this in many if not most churches through their traditions, than God's own word. And therefore because they hold more to their traditions than to God's Word, their worship of God is actually in vein. It is worthless which means it holds no value to God or with God. "in vain do they worship me", "in vain", in other words what by putting more emphasis or placing more value in their traditions, they basically were destroying the effect of God's Word in their life.

He says, they teach for doctrine the commandments of men. So they teach but it is not True doctrine, but rather they teach for doctrine or it can be said this way, they teach substituting their traditions in the place of doctrine.

In order to do that, they have to *lay aside* the doctrine of Christ and the Word of God. and the word lay aside means to abandon or reject.

And that is what he says in verse 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold to the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

And from his Audio letter to Lee Vayle 64-0500 P:10 They had left the Word and made the Word of no effect by their traditions. And that's what the groups have done today-making the real full promise of God, the real promise, of no effect by their traditions.

Now, we see this entirely in the Catholic churches worship of what they call the mass, where they have certain traditions of homilies, kneeling, genuflecting, beating their hand to their chest, while repeating scripted prayers. And in doing this the people somehow feel like they have gotten a little bit holier than they were before entering into church. As if by some physical exercise they are made clean in their heart and in their soul.

Like the nuns who feel it is not enough to pray, but they must make it difficult to pray so they place a wire across the kneeler. Take off the knee pads on the kneeler and place a wire across it so that it digs into your skin, and somehow that self sacrifice is supposed to be pleasing to God.

I am sorry my brothers and sisters, but that is so pagan that it falls in the realm of the Hindu's who takes fish hooks and places it in his Skin and hangs small glass balls full of water from them so that as they move the fish hook digs even deeper into their skin, and somehow that is supposed to make an impression with God that they are very sincere.

They may be sincere, but they are sincerely wrong. And we read in **Proverbs 16:25** "there is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Buy it is by focusing on their traditions that they are actually showing God they are carnally focused. And to be carnally focused is death, and is not pleasing to God.

Then we see Jesus tell them, 9 And he said unto them, Full well ve reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

And remember that is what he also said in verse 8 For <u>laying aside</u> (defined as rejecting) the commandment of God, ye hold to the tradition of men

Then he tells them what Moses said as a commandment of God, 10 For Moses said, <u>Honour</u> thy father and thy mother; (that means to fix a value upon thy father and mother) and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: 11 <u>But ye say</u>, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is **Corban**, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

In other words instead of placing the value in the respect they have for their father and mother, they place the value on self, and say, I'm your treasure, you should be happy I am alive, I am a gift to you, as though you and not the parent should be respected and reverenced. And I think you can see this attitude is rampant in this millennial generation today.

And with that kind of mindset, the actions are not to please the father or mother, but to make demands upon them as though they owe you something just for bringing you into this world.

That is what Jesus says in verse 12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; And that kind of attitude is what makes the Word of God of no effect upon you.

And that is exactly what Jesus says next. 13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which you have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

14 And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.

Oh, if you eat meat you will defile yourself. That is not what Jesus said here. That is 180 degrees the opposite of what he just said.

16 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. Now, notice he is saying this because he wants you to listen and listen carefully.

17 And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable. 18 And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? 20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that is what defiles the man.

Notice he says all that is evil comes out of a man first beginning from his heart where he thinks, so from his thoughts and then through his actions.

21 For <u>from within</u>, <u>out of the heart</u> of men, <u>proceed evil thoughts</u>, (and then when you water those evil thoughts they produce into manifestation) <u>adulteries</u>, <u>fornications</u>, <u>murders</u>, <u>22 Thefts</u>, <u>covetousness</u>, <u>wickedness</u>, <u>deceit</u>, <u>lasciviousness</u>, <u>an evil eye</u>, <u>blasphemy</u>, <u>pride</u>, <u>foolishness</u>: 23 <u>All these evil things come from within</u>, (all these tings come out of the heart of man, first through his thinking process and then into materialization where) <u>and defile the man</u>.

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest <u>any</u> man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, (Deceit that is without real significance, value, or importance; just baseless and worthless:) after the tradition of <u>men</u>, after the rudiments (imperfections) of the world, and not after Christ.

So Paul is basically saying know your sources. If what you hear is from God's Word believe and receive it, but it from the elements of the world, forget it. Consider the source. That is why with all this election meddling, I just refuse to listen to the MSM who are pushing to get this thing over not caring that election fraud has been performed. So I look to one thing and that is the word of God and God does not do anything half way, He is complete, and we are complete in Him.

And therefore If God began the work of Daniel 8 to bring results that will cause Daniel nine to take place, then the same one who began the increase in Manufacturing will have to complete it because it is what spoils the globalist and central banks reset plans, destroying the central bank system which causes them to call on the Vatican for help which is Daniel 9.

So this election is nowhere near over and the true winner will be elected and that's all there is too it. The media can call it all they wish but just because they say so doesn't make it so. The votes must be certified, and for that to happen they must be vetted. And that has not even begun to happen yet.

I mean the media calling the election is a joke. You and I have as much right to call it as they do. But it is the house of representatives of each state and the senate of each state, not the Executive branch which would be the House of Representatives and state Senators. And since the four contested state houses are run by the GOP of each state, then the Democratic Attorney Generals and Governors who were funded by George Soros have no say so according to law.

And if the people think Donald Trump is just going to lay down and be quiet they have not been watching the past 4 years where every time they think they have him over a barrel, they end up losing and he ends up making them look not only stupid but it ends up showing how corrupt they really are.

I know there are people who think that politics should never be brought up in a sermon but the Bible is full of what took place politically in their day, and William Branham prophet of God said in his sermon Uncertain Sound [61-03-15] Politics, uncertain... There's no certainty in politics anymore. The parties can't even have any certainty. There's not any fairness among them anymore. Now, someone might say, "You shouldn't mention politics in a pulpit." That is true. But decency and Christianity ought to be mentioned in the pulpit. That's right. I'm not a politician, I'm a Christian. Both sides is corrupt.

But just recently, in the Presidential election, even they had to go back and found these voting machines, that when you'd... they fixed up so when you vote for one, you'd have to vote for the other one also, crooked. Don't know who got elected. They can't tell any more. No certainty in it. You put them down to count the votes, and somebody's crooked enough to count them the wrong way. Parties, pulling to get their man in, no honesty. Now, if Mr. Kennedy would've been a Republican, or whatever Democrat... Mr. Nixon... made no difference. The thing is wrong when machines are set up to vote wrong. And the FBI proved that it was done, but they didn't do nothing about it. See? Why? You wonder why such things get so over the face of the people, how it ever happened. It's because these things has to be; we're at the end time. It has to be there. This man had to be elected. We're at the end. And I'm sure that you can make two and two make four, that we're at the end time. And these machines, no matter how much they would prove that they've crooked it, it has to remain the way it is.

So, thank you br. Ernie and sister Marsha for sending this quote to me.

But can't you see the same thing took place 50 plus years ago and it's no different today. The machines and software that gave 6,000 votes in a very small county in Michigan is also in 47 other counties in Michigan and in all 4 of the contested States of Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Nevada. It's all crooked and the FBI has known this since 1960 when Kennedy beat Nixon, and do they care? No, as long as each guy who wins keeps them in their jobs they will let it go by. And the whole thing is corrupted.

The Apostle Paul continues in Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: And if we are complete in Him, then we are not complete if any certain party wins, they are all corrupt. The GOP is no different than the DNC accept the DNC openly say they don't want God in their platform, while the GOP claims they do but by their actions they don't either. It's all Satan's Eden, and it all belongs to Satan until God burns it all down.

We also see in Matthew 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress (which means to go beyond the limits of) the commandment of God by your tradition? So we see that people are so geared to the flesh and to their traditions that they go beyond the limits of the doctrine of Christ and the commandments of God.

Now, that takes us to **pp 171**of **The Unveiling of God** where brother Branham says, *But what's it to be done in the last days?* What is to reveal? "Bring forth." What's Malachi 4 to do? To turn back the people from that stumbling block, to break down the traditions, and to reveal the Bread with the Shekinah Glory. Watch It ripen and produce just exactly what It said It would do (Oh, my.), the Show-bread for this age. To the denomination, a stumbling block, a bunch of fanatics: but we who believe Him...

172 But now as Revelations 10 has promised, all the mysteries of God that's been hid in the pages down through them years would be ripened, brought forth in the age of the seventh angel's Message. Is that right? What did He say a year and six months ago, about on two years now? "Go out to Tucson. Be north of Tucson, a great blast," what would take place; the seals would be opened, the seal that revealed these things. Come back just as He said.

What is it? It shows It cannot be man. It hits perfectly, just as straight as it can be, each time. What is it? It's the hand of God (See?), before us. And <u>because it's in a little group</u>, <u>veiled in human flesh</u>, <u>it's veiled to the outside world</u>. He's hid from the outside world. He's revealing Himself to babes such as will learn. See? That's right.

173 See, every parable in the Bible, every type of the Bible is made manifest right here before us. The same God in the Pillar of Fire that wrote the Bible, both in the Old and New Testament, is right here and manifesting It, showing just exactly what it was, interpreting It right back. And to make it sure that it's the interpretation..."We got the interpretation." Then let's see it happen. See, that's it, let's see it made manifest. Manifest... Jesus said, "If I do not the works of My Father believe Me not." See, it's got to be proven. But now, not proven like Jesus, they put a rag around His head and hit Him on the head, said, "If You're a prophet, tell us who hit You." "And if you are the Son of God, turn this bread..." See, that's the Devil. "If you're the Son of God, come off that..." I mean the revelation that He's supposed to do; that's what it is.

174 But now as Revelation 10 is revealed, the mysteries of God is made manifest, known, as the seven-sealed Book promised. Now, let your faith in Him Who is the Word... 'Cause in Revelations 10 it says, or in Revelations 19, rather... I had it wrote down here, Revelations 10, to go to it; but it ain't 10, it's 19. When He comes, He's going to be called the Word of God, riding upon a white horse, and the followers of heaven will be behind Him. Break the denominational veil of education. Break the denominational veil of tradition. Break those veils that's hiding Him from you. Break those veils of pride, you women; you're a King's daughters; act like it; live like it. Break every veil. No matter what Ph.D. and LL.D. says; if it's contrary to that Bible, break through that veil; for we've crossed the riven veil. We're on the other side now, on the other side. And you will see, if you'll just do that, break those old traditions and things and come to Him, you'll see Him standing the Mighty Conqueror, the Word of promise for this age made manifest. You'll see the mighty God unveiled, see Him right among us here, unveiled, the mighty God, unconquered by traditions.

175 They tried to hide Him behind there; (hide him where? He is talking about their traditions hiding the Living Word) they did for years, but the time of the promise drew near. God raised up a Moses one time, and he set the children free from them things. And He's still... He can't be conquered. "Heavens and earth will pass away, but My Word shall not." He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. They say, "It can't be done." But it was done. Then when it was done, they said, "It's of the Devil." But that don't change the Word of God a bit; It still remains God to the believer, the Mighty Conqueror, the same yesterday, today, and forever; by His nature, by His Word, Hebrews 13:8.

From his sermon The Mighty God unveiled 64-062913-4 The Mercy Seat was in plain view of all Israel on that day of the Atonement. But alas, the traditions of the church fathers in that day had, by their traditions, had veiled the true Mercy Seat from the people. If they would've knowed the Scripture, each piece would've come like the Chinese tag. The Old Testament prophecy would've been fulfilled, and it was. And if they'd been taught the Scripture, they would've seen the Mercy Seat.

As Moses said in here that... To this day they're veiled. It's still over their hearts; they don't see it. But He was God, the suffering and the Atonement. He was the genuine Mercy Seat standing in full view. As we sang the hymn: Lo! behold Him in plain view, There He is, the mighty conqueror, Since He rent the veil in two. See, He came the Mercy Seat, hanging in clear view of the congregation. But them being under the popular opinion... Now, men and women, and delegates of this convention, I want to say this without respect of person. But in the view of today, in view of what we're here for today, I'm afraid that the traditions of the fathers, the church fathers, has hid this from too many people. Since the Holy Ghost is come in this last days as prophesied, and the veil has been rent, too many people try to hang to their traditions of the fathers; and that's why they can't see this extreme joy, and peace, and things that the church has today. Yet it's in plain view of those who believe. He hid the Word, the promised Word of this day. But still it's veiled. It's veiled not to the believer, but to the unbeliever; he cannot see it. God always veils Himself from the unbeliever. Traditions hide it. Like they did then, they do it today. That was a spiritual veil that we have now, where the natural veil was there. Vindicated by the prophet with the written Word, a prophesier, one who comes with the written Word to make It plain: they knowed the Word was there, but they didn't know what It meant; and Moses made It plain. He said, "The commandment says this, and this is why." He made It plain. And before It was made plain, It was veiled. And so is It today, veiled to the people until It's revealed and made plain to the people, God, the mighty God, veiled in human flesh, the Word.

Just think of that. Mark 7:13 Jesus said, by their traditions they make the Word of God of none effect.

Just think, they make the Word of God which is the power of God unto Salvation Romans 1:18 and they make the Word of God that created the world and everything in it, and the entire universe, they make that Most powerful Word of God of non effect, they make it useless and of none effect. To whom? To themselves. And How do they do that? By being so focused on the vessel and on the traditions and the way they are used to worshipping, and in order to do that they have to set aside the Word of God, rejecting the Word of God in favor of their traditions.

So you see their ability to know and understand was kept dark because of the veil that was upon their minds. And that veil was their traditions and creeds.

2 John 3:17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face (that mean's a face without any traditions and creed to blind us) beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, (in other words when we without any traditions and creeds look into the Word of God and See Him for Who He really is, then we) are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

So we see the Word of God has transforming power, but what stops that Power of God to transform you into his image from glory to glory? It's your traditions and your creeds.

And brother Branham said from his sermon World is falling apart 63-1115 P:39 What had caused this? I believe there was a cause for that. And I think it is because they had took the Word of God and made It of no effect by their traditions. Jesus said so. He said, "You, by your traditions, has made the Word of God of no effect." That's right. It wasn't effective, because it added and projected into It their traditions. And when...You can't add nothing to That. You can't take nothing from It. It's... That's just the way It is. That's the way God preserved It. We can't add creeds and dogmas and things, to inject in That. That don't need any help. That's Him, that's Him in letter form. And the Word is a Seed. And the seed in the right kind of ground will grow, if you don't dig it up every morning to find out whether it's growed or not. You just plant it, commit it to God, and leave it there. That's the way to let it grow, just to leave It the way it's in the ground. And that's where It's supposed to be, the ground of your heart. Faith is watering It, hourly, saying, "Now, it's... God said so, it's mine." That's the way to do it.

And from this sermon Unveiling of God 64-0614M and going way back to P:62 Brother Branham said, "Now, and one time, and if a man walked through that veil, it was sudden death. Now, it's death not to go through it. Amen. If you can't break that veil of tradition, break through that wall of denomination to see God in His power, it's death. Once where it was death to go in, now it's death to stay out. The whole mercy seat's setting in plain view; anybody can see It; the veil's rent. Glory to God. The whole mercy seat comes into plain view.

All things 62-1124E P:49 Now, when we do that, we come to the communion in the right way. We come to the communion remembering Him, remembering Him, our Sacrifice. We remember Him our Peace; we remember Him our Purity, remember Him our Cleansing; remembering Him when we kneel at the cross, not half drunk, not living in adultery, not with malice, hatred, and strife; but we kneel at the cross by faith, by His feet to accept His pardoning. We come in that condition to the communion, in very sincerity, not just say, "I should go." You go there because you're deeply sincere. It's between death and life. Yes, sir. You go, and remember your traditions no more, and you're cleansed from your sin. That's one place. When you kneel there in sincerity, Methodist brother, Baptist brother, Oneness brother, Twoness brother, Threeness brother: if you kneel there in sincerity, your traditions are gone. That's right. Trinity, Oneness, Baptists, they're all cleansed and are sons of God. Traditions and fussing is over. You don't think about it no more because you're clean and pure. See? You are brothers. No matter what some tradition said, don't have nothing to do with them. You're at the same cross, at the same fountain. You're blood brothers. Oh, my.

Let us pray...