



MARK: THE GOSPEL IN ACTION

“Man’s Traditions vs.
God’s Commandments”

MARK 7:1-13

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

13 And the Lord said: “Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, while their hearts are far from Me, and their fear of Me is a commandment taught by men,

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

14 therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.”

15 Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

16 You turn things upside down!
Shall the potter be regarded as the
clay, that the thing made should
say of its maker, “He did not make
me”; or the thing formed say of him
who formed it, “He has no
understanding”?

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

17 Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

18 In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

19 The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

20 For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,

Isaiah 29:13–21 (ESV)

21 who by a word make a man out to be an offender, and lay a snare for him who reproveth in the gate, and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

1 Now when the Pharisees gathered to Him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,

2 they saw that some of His disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.

3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders,

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

4 and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”

6 And He said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “ ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me;

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

7 in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

8 You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

9 And He said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

10 For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’

11 But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban” ’ (that is, given to God)—

12 then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother,

Mark 7:1–13 (ESV)

13 thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

I. The Pharisees Accuse Jesus and His Disciples (vv. 1-5)

II. Jesus Answers Their Accusation with One of His Own (vv. 6-13)

II. The Age Old Battle Between Tradition and God's Word

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Exodus 20:12 (ESV)

12 “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:17 (ESV)

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Leviticus 20:9 (ESV)

9 For anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death; he has cursed his father or his mother; his blood is upon him.

III. The Age Old Battle Between Tradition and God's Word

