

Palm Springs Church of Christ
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Office hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
June 5, 2022



Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

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Tradition Versus Scripture

Terms Defined

We must define the terms “commandment” and “tradition.”

“**Commandment**,” in the present context, has to do with divine revelation. It is further designated as “the word of God” (Matt. 15:6; cf. Mark 7:13). Some Greek manuscripts have “law” in Matthew 15:6. “Commandment” is the equivalent of law (see Luke 23:56). These terms represent an obligation imposed by God, to which human beings are amenable. Violation thereof constitutes “sin” (1 John 3:4).

The term “**tradition**” renders a Greek word that signifies “instruction that has been handed down.” (Danker, p. 763). The expression may be used in a good sense, equivalent to divine commandment (1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thes. 2:15; 3:6). In other contexts, it can denote hurtful, human traditions that are condemned (Matt. 15:3; Col. 2:8).

In this latter case, common practices, embalmed by time, become accepted as “the voice of God.” Such “traditions” may become “burdens” (cf. Matt. 23:4), unnecessarily levied upon people, robbing them of legitimate freedom in serving Christ.

There are two digressive directions in the “law-tradition” controversy. First, there is the tendency to reduce law to the status of tradition. Then there is the disposition that codifies tradition into law. Both approaches are wrong.

Transforming Law into Tradition

The brotherhood of Christ has not been unaffected by this mentality to a degree. Increasingly, one hears statements to this effect. “Traditionally, churches of Christ baptize by immersion.” That leaves a wrong impression. Baptism, by definition, is immersion. There is no “baptism,” in the absence of immersion.

Transforming Tradition into Law

The structure of our modern worship format is significantly traditional. Should the Lord’s supper be served before the preaching service or afterward? Should we use song books, or may the lyrics and notes be projected upon a screen. This latter practice is finding acceptance in some places, and a few brethren contend that it is a “liberal” trend.

Some have been charged with liberalism for not “offering the invitation” at the conclusion of every presentation. While an “invitation” may be a wonderful expedient at regular church assemblies, is it a “tradition”? Or is it biblically mandated? If the latter is the case, why is it not offered at the end of every Bible class?

Conclusion

O how many heartaches have been caused because well-meaning brethren could not distinguish between “law” and “tradition.” Is there any way to help ameliorate this situation?

We must become more dedicated students of the Scriptures. We are at a loss for direction if we are uninformed as to sound procedures in Bible interpretation. We must be able to discern the difference between “law” and “tradition,” the “essential” and the “incidental.”

Finally, we must cultivate a greater sense of tolerance for brethren whose practices, in areas of judgment, vary from ours. There may be ‘opinion procedures’ one does not prefer, but such must not become barriers to Christian fellowship. We must cultivate discernment, and to work for peace, without doctrinal compromise, in the body Christ.

adapted from an article *Tradition versus Scripture* by Wayne Jackson

We have a commitment, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
To give glory to God
To be unified in reaching others
To be living witnesses for Christ

Welcome to the
Palm Springs Church of Christ



We have come to glorify God and to be guided in the direction our lives need to take. We rejoice in your presence and welcome you sincerely.

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. (Ephesians 6:18)”

Pray for our Church family:

Please keep Roy and family in your prayers during this difficult time following Lucy’s passing. We ask that you continue to pray for the improved health of: Mae Britton, Kerry Britton, Lynette Brink, Sue Collins, Phyllis Francis, Wanda Goodenough, Delores Jensen, Betty Johnson, Brenda Jones, John Leonard, Roy McDonald, Jeff Mercer, Jerry Munn, Dail Paramore, and Francis Pati.

Pray for family & friends:

Please pray for Russ and Barbara Galbreath’s daughter-in-law Carla and has been placed on hospice care. Pray for the improved health of: Jim D’Arcy, Mary Fields, Joy Gabel Filippone, Keith & Lisa Britton, Delores’ brother Len, Marjorie Counts, Kathy’s husband Kevin, Derek Fields, Dail’s friends Marie and Teddy Kovack who is recovering from cancer surgery and Brenda’s son Uriah.

First responders: Please keep those who are serving their communities in your prayers: Phyllis Francis’ extended family member Alisha K. (EMT). Dail Paramore and Stuart Huggins’ family members: Joanna Carter (Nurse), Luther Carter (Naval Officer), Jody Huggins and Jory Huggins (both are MI Patrol Officers). Jerry Munn’s sister, Dr. Janice Massey of N.C. If you have family members or friends you would like to add to this prayer list, please let Kathy know.

Military:

Jeff Mercer’s son-in-law Brandon Deusenberry, Glenn Fields, and Kathy’s family friends T. Burgess and T. Cairo.

Prayer Warriors Corner

Fill me, Holy spirit, with love, gentleness, and kindness toward others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Our Daily Bread: David H. Roper; September 2021

Read: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

News:

The Community Food Bank: is in need of “non-perishable” food that include but are not limited to: 1 pound packages of rice, 1 pound packages of beans, boxed Macaroni & Cheese, Ramen/Cup of Noodles, Rice-A-Roni, pasta, jars or cans of pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, & canned fruit. Your donation would be greatly appreciated.

Individually wrapped communion supplies are available for those who are not comfortable with in-person worship service or when you plan to be out of town.

In Search of the Lord’s Way: Watch excellent Bible-based messages every Sunday, 7:30 a.m., on KCWQ, VHF channel 2 or UHF channel 26. Also Available ANY TIME online with You Tube. Just enter: SearchTVMinistry and pick a sermon. <https://youtu.be/FxMzZ6ZKMdQ>

Scripture reading:
 Mark 7:5-16

So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?” He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.” And he said to them: “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and ‘Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.’ But you say that if a man says to his father or mother: ‘Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban’ (that is, a gift devoted to God), then you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.” Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of man that makes him ‘unclean.’”

Sermon Title:
 “God’s Will and My Traditions”

Birthdays:

Brenda Jones: 6/10
 Kerry Britton: 6/14
 Lynette Brink: 6/18

Wedding Anniversaries:

D & E Winings: 6/24

Worship service: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

WORSHIP ORDER June 5, 2022

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

628: Will You Not Tell it Today? (1,2)

636: To Love Someone More Dearly (1-3)

COMMUNION & OFFERING

642. Let the Lower Lights Be Burning (1-3)

INTERLUDE/INTERVALO

SCRIPTURE READING & SERMON

648: Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (1-4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING PRAYER

While we will be having in-person worship service on Sunday mornings, we understand that there are still many of our number that are still not comfortable attending. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, and that you are truly missed.

God bless us all and our families and loved ones too.

Sermons on line: For the most recent locally recorded sermon, simply go to the Palm Springs Church of Christ webpage and click on the “sermons” category at the top of the page.

<http://www.crenshawchurchofchrist.com>

Tri Lakes Church of Christ in Monument, Colorado