#144

Jewish Tradition

What is the big hindrance of tradition ?

When we have done or believed something a certain way for years, it is hard to except what your doing or believe is wrong. In the natural this is almost impossible, why do you think Jesus warned us.

<u>Colossians 2:8</u>* Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. <u>Matthew 16:6</u>* Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

We will go back over 2000 years ago, to the time of Christ and Israel. The followers of Christ believed him up to a point, but it wasn't till the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that they truly believed.

<u>Acts 4:13</u>* Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

But even Peter, whom the lord showed him that there was no difference between Jew and Gentile when it came to the dispensation of GRACE through the cross and Christ Jesus.

<u>Acts 10:32-36</u> Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is **Peter**; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee. <u>33</u>* Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

<u>34</u>* Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

<u>35</u>* But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

<u>36</u>* The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Peter knew that The Gentiles were born again and were baptized with the Holy Ghost but when he got back to his fellow Jews, he soon forgot what the Lord showed him and when they seen that through Paul's preaching multitudes of Gentiles were being saved. the Jerusalem Jews, including Peter said the Gentiles had to follow their TRADITION to be saved.

<u>Acts15:1</u>* And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. <u>Acts 15:5</u>* But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

Now when Paul and Barnabas heard this they were some upset and went to Jerusalem and disputed with Peter and the Apostles

<u>Acts 15:2</u>* When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined

that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

Acts 15:7-11* And when there had been much

disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

<u>8</u>* And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; <u>9</u>* And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

<u>10</u>* Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

 11^* But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

The Apostle James said

<u>Acts 15:13-17</u> And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

<u>14</u>* Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

<u>15</u>* And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

<u>16</u>* After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

<u>17</u>* That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

<u>20</u>* But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

When it comes to the grace of God, there is no difference between the Jew OR the Gentile. Grace IS Grace.

But you would never know it, in our modern day, there are multitudes of Jews that believe in Jesus as the Messiah **BUT** they hold fast to many facets of the law.

The bible says that there is no such thing as keeping part of the law, if you are going to keep the law then you must keep ALL OF IT.

James 2:10* For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

<u>Galatians 3:12</u>* And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

<u>Romans 2:29</u>* But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God. <u>Romans 10:4</u>* For Christ is the end of the law for

righteousness to every one that believeth.

You see the trouble Israel has in believing in grace and just faith after 1000's of years following the letter of the law.

We have only had a few years in comparison to lock in our tradition and look at how we are bound. YOU SEE these traditions are all about SELF, what we have to do to obtain righteousness. In the dispensation of grace WE do nothing but believe. <u>Isaiah 64:6</u>* But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

As Tradition keeps the Jew from entering into rest with Jesus, So it keeps us from receiving what Christ has already done for us over 2000 years ago. The main sin of the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees and most denominational assemblies today is self righteousness.

Trust this helps you understand better. Bro Ken