



Matt. 15:1-9

Further Study:

- In your own words, define the Scriptures and tradition. Next, discuss how they work together, and then the problems that arise when tradition takes precedence over the Word of God.
- What does it mean to be a confessional Christian (protestant)? How might we appropriately use confessions and creeds in the church today? How can they anchor us to the timeless truth of sound doctrine?
- Read 2 Peter 3:15-16 and 1 Tim. 5:18. How do these passages affirm that Peter, Paul, and Jesus' teaching and/or writing were all viewed as Scripture on par with the Old Testament?
- Do we have witness from the first few centuries that affirms that Scriptures were already in circulation and that sound doctrine was already being defended? How might this provide confidence in the Scriptures and affirm their importance in the church?
- Can you think of modern examples of how people have allowed tradition and/or preference to create a tradition that is antithetical to the Scriptures? How has this brought harm and division to the church?
- Matt. 15:4-6. What is Jesus' point with his example? How does it prove the hypocrisy of their man-made religious system?
- Why are the Pharisees and Scribes hypocrites, and what does it mean?
- How can we differentiate between sound doctrine and the commandments of man?