

BibleTalk Radio



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Christ for the Philippines Mission

The Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the Father All Point to One Person

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The topic of tonight's BibleTalk Radio Show is "The Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the Father All Point to One Person." That's the title of the show today. The Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the Father, all of those point to one Person. Let's jump into the lesson, shall we.

We're going to start off today with one of my very, very favorite verses in the Bible. If you've been listening to this show for any amount of time, you've heard me use this verse many times, John 5:39. I use this verse a lot because it is one of the clearest verses that teaches us about the Person that the Scriptures are all pointing to or talking about.

While you're turning there, John 5:39, dear listener, whether this is your first time tuning into the show or your fortieth time, you need to be clear on one thing. We here at the BibleTalk Radio Show are not promoting religion. We're not interested in promoting religion or getting you into our religion; we don't really have a religion. We're not trying to get you into joining a group or organization or to send us money or anything like that. Our sole purpose here is to teach what the Bible teaches, which is a relationship with Jesus Christ.

The whole Bible, the whole creation, your life whether you know it or not, whether you like it or not, whether you're interested in it or not, you will come face to face with the Person of

Jesus Christ. And what we do, the decision we make with that Jesus right now will affect us for all of eternity. So John 5:39, I want to read to you one of my favorite Bible verses and this is what Jesus Christ Himself said: *Search the scriptures*. What are the Scriptures, Ms. Ypille?

[Ms. Ypille:] The Bible.

Okay, the Bible. *Search the scriptures* [Search the Bible]; *for in them* [the Bible Scriptures] *ye think* [you reason, you understand] *ye have eternal life...* What is eternal life, Ms. Ypille?

[Ms. Ypille:] Going to Heaven, living forever in Heaven.

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

So Jesus here is stating in the book of John, St. John the Divine, that the Bible, the Scriptures, testify of Him. Remember, the title of the show tonight is the Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the Father testify or point to Jesus Christ. So, we began with an easy verse. I use that verse a lot because it's a foundational verse. We can springboard off of that verse and go into any number of doctrines in the Bible because ultimately all doctrines in the Bible point to Jesus Christ. I want to take you to



another place that's very similar. Remember, we're starting off with the Bible is pointing to a Person, and we're going to make it very clear, but we are going ultimately to a point towards the end of the show.

So please join me in the New Testament in the book of Hebrews. While you're turning in the book of Hebrews, I want to point out something to you. In John 5:39 where we just were where it says, *Search the scriptures*, the only Scriptures in existence at that time, because that was two thousand years ago, was the Old Testament. There was no New Testament yet. It was being played out. Jesus was here. He was living His sinless life and teaching. So, in other words, the Old Testament was testifying about Jesus Christ. That's what He was plainly stating.

In Hebrews 10:7, Jesus is making another statement here. In fact, instead of verse 7, I am going to go up to verse 4. I'm going to start in verse 4 just to give us a little background before we get to verse 7. And this is talking about sacrifices. This is talking about what it takes for a person to get to Heaven.

Hebrews 10:4: *⁴For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. ⁵Wherefore when he cometh into the world... That's Jesus Christ when He came into the world... he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.* What body is that, Ms. Ypille?

[Ms. Ypille:] It's the sacrificial body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The body of the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Son has always existed. God the son did not start in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. God the

Son has always existed from everlasting. He's the everlasting God. But the body that He prepared was born in Bethlehem and was named Jesus, the word "Jesus" or the name "Jesus" meaning Saviour. And of course, the name "Christ" is a title which means the Messiah or the Chosen One, God the Son.

So He says, *Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared for me.* In other words, He doesn't want people sacrificing. He does not want people sacrificing. God prepared His own sacrifice in the Person of Jesus Christ.

Verse 6: *In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.* God has no pleasure in us trying to atone for our sins. It's foolishness, because we can't.

[Ms. Ypille:] Yes, I wanted to ask about that, Pastor. In the Old Testament they recommend the Jewish people, the Hebrew people, to do the sacrifices, because that's how they could atone. Now, could you please connect it with this verse?

In the Old Testament, and that's correct, first came the Ten Commandments and then after that over the next forty years came 603 more commandments. There are 613 commandments in the Old Testament. Whenever somebody says to me, "Pastor, I'm going to try to keep the Ten Commandments to try to go to Heaven," my response to that usually is, "You're going to have to do better than that. You're going to have to follow all 613 commandments."

"Oh, there's 613 commandments?"

I say, "Oh, you're in trouble."



The Lord gave commandments for the people Israel to follow, and the people very quickly found out they could not. Nobody could keep the commandments, so God made a system for them. He says, "Okay, I want you to sacrifice." And He gave a prescription in the Old Testament in the book of Numbers, in the book of Leviticus, especially Leviticus. God showed the people what kind of animal to sacrifice for what kind of person and for what kind of sin and how often and so forth and who was to do that sacrifice, so many.

If you read the Old Testament, if you read the first five books of Moses, you find out that bulls and goats and sparrows and birds and all kinds, they were all sacrificed. Their throat was cut and they were bled. There were millions and millions of Jews that were sacrificing on a daily basis at the altar at the tabernacle. It quickly became that they had to dig trenches for the blood of all these hundreds of thousands of animals per day for their blood to drain away. Can you image the stench and the flies from all this blood and all this flesh that was constantly being sacrificed at the altar of the temple on a daily basis?

God commanded this, and if we were to take the time to do an entirely different study, in the book of Galatians we find out that the law was our schoolmaster. That's exactly the way it's worded in the Bible. If you have a way to do a word study, look up the word "schoolmaster" in the Bible. The Bible says that the law was a schoolmaster. What is a schoolmaster? A schoolmaster is one that is tasked with bringing the student to his learning. The law was a schoolmaster because it was to bring the people to learning about their sin and how they had no way to atone for it.

In other parts of the Bible in three separate sections, it says "the just." The word "just" means justified. It means pronounced innocent, in other words acquitted from sin. It says the just shall live by faith, not by sacrifice. Where is our faith to be placed? Well, Jesus just spoke to us a little while ago and said, *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

Where is our faith to be placed if not in the sacrifice of animals, of goats and cows and heifers and turtledoves and all that? Then our faith must be placed on something else. It is to be placed on the Person of God the Son, the Person of Jesus Christ. Does that answer your question?

[Ms. Ypille:] Yes, of course.

So we'll continue. We were in the book of Hebrews earlier, Chapter 10 and we began in verse 4, and now we're going to go into verse 7. Talking about Jesus Christ here, *⁷Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. ⁸Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldst not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; ⁹Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.*

In other words, He's saying here you cannot atone for your sins by sacrifices, neither sacrifice of money nor sacrifice of animals or sacrifice of personal works, good works. He said, "I've removed that. You can't do it, but I've given you a better sacrifice." We find this in verse 10, *By the which will [the will of God] we are sanctified [we are cleansed] through the*



offering of the body of Jesus Christ... how many times... once for all.

Dear listener, this is why it is important to realize that we are all sinners. Have you ever told a lie? Have you ever taken something that did not belong to you? That means have you ever stolen something. I didn't ask you if you were eight years old when you did it. Have you ever taken something that did not belong to you, regardless of the value, regardless of how long ago? If you have done that, the Bible says you are a thief.

Have you ever committed adultery? Have you ever had sexual relations outside of marriage? That is, you either have never been married or you're married and you had sexual relations with somebody else. That's adultery. Today, man has changed that. "Oh, it's okay. Everybody does it. The movie stars are doing it. The TV shows are showing it." But God has not changed.

We're in trouble because we've stolen; we've hated; we've committed adultery; we have not kept the Sabbath; we have not honored our father and mother, so forth and so forth. We're in big trouble. It's too late. We're condemned already. So we need a better sacrifice than good works or money or religion or the sacrificing of animals. That sacrifice has been provided by the Person of Jesus Christ.

I'll read it again. Hebrews 10:10: *By the which will... the will of God... we are sanctified... Oh, what's the will of God? That we be sanctified, and only through one way... through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ... How many times? Once a week? Every time you go to church? No... once for all.*

Dear listeners, there are religions that teach that Jesus Christ is re-sacrificed over and over and over and over. But the Bible, which is the very words of God Himself, teach otherwise. You have to make a choice.

I wanted to point your attention to verse 7. It says, *in the volume of the book it is written of me*. So remember, the first part of the topic is the Bible points to the Lord Jesus Christ.

I want to show you to another place please to the book of Luke 24:27. After His resurrection, He's trying to explain to some people about who He is, and it says here: *And beginning at Moses... Where does Moses begin, Ms. Ypille?*

[Ms. Ypille:] At Genesis.

At Genesis, beginning in the book of Genesis, the very first book of the Bible, and how many of the prophets? *All the prophets, he expounded unto them [or explained to them] in all the scriptures the things concerning... Who?... himself.*

So Jesus Christ was with a couple of guys and they were walking and the distance that's shown in the Bible, it's showing to us that at a minimum they were walking for three hours and some believe they could have been walking for as much as seven hours, but for between three and seven hours, Jesus Christ began at the beginning of the Bible and all the prophets and expounded all the things concerning Himself. In other words, the Bible points to Who? Jesus Christ, amen.

Let me take you to one more place in the same chapter, Luke 24, but this time we're going to jump down to verse 44. Now, again, this is after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and He is



speaking to His disciples before His ascension back to Heaven, and this is what verse 44 says: *And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses...*** which is Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, the first five books of the Bible... ***and in the prophets...*** all the countless prophets, major prophets, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Isaiah, the minor prophets, Habakkuk, Amos, Joel, Micah, Malachi, Zechariah, all of them. You name them, the prophets... ***and in the psalms...*** There are 150 psalms and He says at the very end there... ***concerning me.***

*And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.***

The Bible, all of it points, concerns itself with one Person, Jesus Christ. You do not see the Bible pointing to any saint. You don't see the Bible pointing to any angelic entity. You don't see the Bible pointing to any religion. You see the entire Word of God pointing to a Person, and that Person is the Lord Jesus Christ. I'm not making this up. It's not my opinion. It's what the Bible says. I've shown you four different places.

So Part 1 of our topic today was the Bible points to Jesus Christ. Part 2, actually I'm only going to give you one verse, but we could find more. If you text me, you can ask me, and I'll be glad to text you the other verses but for the sake of time, the second part of today's topic is the Holy Spirit points to Jesus Christ. The Holy

Spirit Himself says, "Don't go to Me. Go to this other Person." Let's find out who that is.

In the book of John, Chapter 15, verse 26... another name for the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, because the Holy Spirit for those of us who are saved, He comforts us. He's the one that teaches us the Bible and convicts us and leads us, and you know that a proper name is always capitalized and here in this verse the word "Comforter" is capitalized. But Jesus identifies Him anyway so you don't have to worry about who this Comforter Person is. Let's read the verse.

John 15:26: ***But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth... capital S... which proceedeth from the Father... That can only be one Person, the Holy Spirit... He shall testify of me.***

So, according to this verse, the Holy Spirit is testifying or pointing us to Christ, not the Father. So that's one verse there that I wanted to show you concerning the Holy Spirit. And so now I would like to show you the third portion. The first portion of today's lesson was the Bible points to Jesus Christ. The second portion of today's lesson, the Holy Spirit points to Jesus Christ. And the third portion of our lesson is the Father, God the Father, points to Jesus Christ.

Please, in the same book, the book of John, this time let's back up to Chapter 5, John 5 beginning in verse 22. ***For the Father judgeth no man.*** "What, Pastor? I thought God was going to judge everybody." Yes, but not God the Father; God the Son. ***²²For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son... capital S. ²³That all***



men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father... Look at this... *He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.* How can we deny the plain teaching of the Bible? The Father Himself points to the Son.

I want to show you one more spot regarding that the Father points to the Son. Please turn with me in the New Testament further down in the book of Philippians, Chapter 2. Remember that Jesus Christ, God the Son, came down from Heaven and was born in Bethlehem. He was born as a man. He had to be. In order to atone for our sins He had to be a man. He had to be a man, had to be creature for creature. He had to be a likeness.

[Ms. Ypille:] That is even taught in the Jewish religion, that it is going to be a man.

So here's what it says in Philippians 2:8 concerning Jesus Christ, God the Son having come down as a man. It says, *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.* Who's that?

[Ms. Ypille:] Christ Jesus.

Verse 9: *Wherefore God... God the Father... also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Amen. There is a day coming, no matter how rich, no matter how proud, no matter how smart, there are many people who deny God

today. There are many people who say they have their own religion, whatever the case may be. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ, not Mohammed, not Krishna, not Buddha, not Felix Manalo, not Kibaloy. Jesus Christ is Lord for the glory of the Father. That will bring glory to God the Father. So God the Father also points to Jesus Christ. The Bible points to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit points to Jesus Christ. The Father points to Jesus Christ.

We're going to discuss a couple of other things. But I'd like to address one particular text that we received. A listener asked the question: "I found a verse in the Bible that says, if we confess our sins to Him, He's faithful and just to forgive us our sins. Are we supposed to confess to a priest or are we supposed to confess to Him?" Capital *H*, meaning God.

Dear listener, the verse you're talking about is found in I John 1:9 and I'd actually like to address that because that will benefit many of the hearers tonight.

Turn your Bibles if you have your Bibles, to the book of I John, Chapter 1, starting in verse 7, because you need to know who that "He" is that it's talking about. It says here in John 1:7, *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another...* That's talking about the saved brethren, one with another, not one with the world. Have no fellowship with the people and the sinners of the world... *and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin.* This book is written to saved believers, by the way. It's not written to everybody in the world. It's written to saved believers. ⁸*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*



As a pastor, and I'm the first one to admit this. I still have sin. Just because I'm a pastor, because I'm saved and going to Heaven, it doesn't mean I don't sin. I'm still living in this fleshly body in this fleshly world and I still struggle. But I can't go around saying, "Well, I'm saved now so now I have no sin." That would be a lie. And my wife would really rat me out because she lives with me 24 hours a day, and she would be able to tell you, "Oh, no, he's a sinner still." But I'm forgiven, see. When you are in Christ, you are forgiven from all of your sins, past, present, and future.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me continue here. Verse 9: *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* ¹⁰*If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

The verse in verse 9 actually has two applications, two contexts, two meanings in other words. *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* It's talking about salvation. When you realize that you are a sinner, condemned and unclean before Almighty God, that you have lied, that you have stolen, that you have not honored your father and your mother, that you have committed adultery, that you have coveted, in other words, envied what other people have, you have broken those commandments and you stand guilty before an Almighty God, and God knows what else you've done.

When you realize the condition that you stand before God condemned, that's when you turn. You say, "God, I don't want to go to Hell. I don't want this life of sin anymore. Oh, God, what have I done? God, I confess before You

that I have...." and then you confess your sin. "I have stolen. I have committed adultery, I have lied, I have cheated, I have murdered in my heart by hating other people," and so forth. So that's talking about salvation. You can't confess to me, a pastor. You cannot confess to a priest. You go directly to God. The book of Romans, Chapter 10, verse 13 says, *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

The second application that this verse has in I John 1:9 is for those of us who are already saved but still sin. I was saved on July 23 of the year 2000. It'll be seventeen years pretty soon. But I still, this morning, this afternoon, I committed some kind of sin. I committed sin that I know I've committed, and I've committed sins that I don't even know. I'm not even sure. Why? Because we have committed sins of commission and sins of omission because we are not perfect and we can't read minds and we don't even know sometimes when we have offended somebody.

I have to confess before God. Lord, forgive me, for I got angry and I said something ugly. I opened my mouth and dishonored You with the words that came off my tongue. Lord, forgive me because I looked at somebody and for a moment I really wished that I had what they had. That's coveting. *Thou shalt not covet.* Lord, forgive me because I've done this and this and this. Also, Lord, if I have committed some sin that has offended You without me even realizing it, please forgive me for that, too.

We're cleansed. We're cleansed. There's an example for us where Jesus was telling all of His disciples, "I'm going to wash your feet." And He was setting an example for them about service. And Peter, he's always the first one to



Speak up, he said, "Lord, You're not going to wash my feet." Of course, Peter means, "Lord, You're God. I'm not going to have you wash my feet. That's a dirty job."

So Jesus said, "Well, if you don't let me wash your feet, then you have no part with me."

So then Peter, of course, goes to the other extreme and he says, "Okay, not only my feet but my whole body."

And Jesus said something very interesting. He said, "Those who are clean need not to be washed except for their feet." What did He mean by that? Peter was a saved man, saved, born-again man. He was clean before God, but because he walked on this dirty earth, his feet needed to be cleaned.

We who are born again and saved, we're clean before God the Father, but because we're still walking upon this filthy earth, we still have some sins that get onto us like dirt gets on our feet. Our body, our standing before God is clean, but we have some sin here that we need to be very careful to confess before God, not because we'll lose our salvation, because we won't, but because we want to have a right and blessed standing before God so that we may be clean for His service. It's amazing how many Christians don't even really care about that. So, dear listeners, I hope that has answered a question, and if not, you can text me again and I'll be glad to spend some time with you.

So, the three parts to our lesson, which the lesson was "The Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the Father All Point to Jesus Christ," and we discussed that.

But now I want to take a couple of steps further to say this. Even Jesus Christ Himself claimed and pointed to Himself as the only way. Turn with me if you would please to the book of John 14:6. *Jesus saith unto him, I am...* So He's talking about Himself... *the way...* How many ways is that? Just one... *the truth...* How many truths are there? One... *and the life...* One. He said... *no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

Jesus here is plainly, clearly stating there is no way to Heaven except through Jesus Christ. I'm a Baptist because our name stands for a people who have always followed the Bible from the time of John the Baptist all the way to 2017. We are people of the Book. We are Bible believers, but "Baptist" does not save you. Jesus Christ saves you. There are plenty of believers who are not Baptists who are saved because they trusted Jesus Christ and Him alone for their salvation. There are plenty of Baptists who call themselves Baptists but they're not going to Heaven because they're trusting the Baptist name instead of the name of Jesus Christ. So remember, Jesus is not teaching religion. He's teaching himself.

So Jesus Christ even speaks of Himself. Now, dear listener, I need to address something else very important, because there are religions out there who say, "Yes, the Bible says some of those things, but church tradition says also this and this and this. And our religious leader, our figurehead for our religion, says this and this and this and this."

So, dear listener, are we to hold church traditions as equal with the Word of God? Or is there one that is above the other? God Himself, Jesus Christ, addresses this. This is so important that even he addressed it, and I



would like to show you, if you would, in the book of Matthew, Chapter 15, where Jesus addresses an interesting issue. And by the way, He addresses it in several different places. But for the sake of time, I want to show you one of the simpler ones.

I can text you if you text me first or if you go to our Facebook page and ask me the question. I can show you other places. When I teach you things in the Bible, dear listener, I want you to understand, on this show usually there are ten times more places in the Bible that are teaching the lesson that I'm teaching. It's just that, of course, we don't have that kind of time.

Turn with me to the book of Matthew, Chapter 15. The religious leaders in the time of Jesus Christ – the major religion there, the religion was Judaism – and the religious leaders were called – there were two of them. They were scribes and Pharisees. There was also another group called Sadducees, but the main ones that were super, super religious and they were dressed up in garments, very clean and fancy and shiny garments like priests' garments and everybody knew who they were because they would wear their garments that definitely marked them as a religious leader. Those were the Pharisees. So let's take a journey into Matthew Chapter 15 and find out what Jesus says regarding these people and the church traditions, the religious traditions.

Matthew 15:1: ¹*Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem...* So these were not just any scribes and Pharisees. These came from the headquarters, Jerusalem... *saying,* ²*Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?* These guys are making an accusation against the disciples of Jesus Christ. Let's find out what the accusation is...

for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. That was their tradition. You see, the religious crowd, the religion of that day, had very specific rules on how to ceremonially wash your hands. They prescribed the method. They prescribed how long the hands should be washed, how they should be dried, the words that should be said while they hands are being washed. It was a whole ceremonial thing.

The disciples of Jesus... we're talking about Peter, John, Nathaniel, Thomas, all of these guys, the apostles, and other disciples that Jesus had. They didn't wash their hands like that. They didn't stand in front of the sink going, "Oh, Lord, dear Lord, wash all of the sin off of my hands, Lord, as I'm about to eat the food that You provide to me." They didn't have a repetitious prayer in a certain way. They just said, "Lord, thank You for this food," and boom, they started eating. That's how you know they were Baptists.

It says, *for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.* Verse 3: *But he [Jesus] answered and said unto them, Why do ye... "Ye," Y-E, that's an Old English word meaning you all. Why do [you all] also transgress the commandment of God... How?... by your tradition?* Let's find out what Jesus thinks about traditions. ⁴*For God commanded...* He's catching these hypocrite religious leaders. "Oh, your disciples aren't washing their hands according to our prescribed religious ways before they eat."

Jesus said, "Listen, you're the one that's in trouble." He says, *For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.* ⁵*But [you all, religious leaders,] say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his*



mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; ⁶And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

See, one of the Ten Commandments is honor thy father and mother. God takes that very seriously. Dear listener, if you have ever, ever disrespected your father or your mother in any way, including as a four-year-old child who has disobeyed. Oh, do you think because a child is four years old God is going to hold him guiltless if he says no when Mom and Dad tell him something? God will not. That child is guilty and stands condemned to Hell before God. You better believe it.

The commandment was honor thy father and thy mother, but here, Jesus is addressing in verse 5, He's saying, *But [you religious leaders] say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift...* In other words, "Mom, Dad, you're old and you're sick and you need food and you need medicine, and I have the money to pay for all your food and the medicine. Oh, but I have already dedicated that money to give it to the church so that the priest there can have a brand new fork tuner, because by doing that, I'll get favor with God."

Jesus is saying, "Your father and your mother are in need and you have the money to help them but you would rather spend it on something shiny and new and you want to claim that that's honoring God." *It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightiest be profited by me....* in other words, whatever would help Mom and Dad.

"I'm sorry I have this and it would help you, but I'm going to give it to my friend the priest

so that he can help me have a better standing in Heaven." He said, "By doing that," verse 6, "you honor not your father and your mother." He says, "But your religious leaders say you'll be free, when God said let them die the death." He said, *[Like this]...* The word "thus" means like this... *have [you all] made the commandment of God of none effect...* How?... *by your tradition.*

Now, Jesus Christ has some very harsh words. In verse 7, He says, *Ye hypocrites...* That's a strong word, but Jesus said, *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias* [Isaiah the prophet] *prophecy of you, saying, ⁸This people draweth nigh [or near] unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips...* They talk about Jesus and they say Jesus is the Saviour of the world... *but their heart is far from me.* The word "vain" means good for nothing. Verse 9: *But in vain* [but good for nothing] *they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*

Dear listener, who has the authority? Church tradition, religious leaders, or the Word of God, the commandments of God? According to Jesus Christ Himself, it is the Word of God. There is no man, there is no organization, there is no institution on the face of the Earth that has the authority that the Word of God has.

Now, if you would like to read some interesting language, some interesting things that Jesus had to say, please, not right now. I'm not going to go into it, but I'm suggesting to you, read Matthew. We're in the book of Matthew right now, but go to Chapter 23 and read the whole chapter if you want to hear some interesting words from the blessed Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.



I said all that to say this. Many churches and religions, in fact, all of them, all of them, all churches and religions point either to themselves or to a man or to a tradition or to something else or to Jesus and... like, you should trust in Jesus and His mother; you should trust in Jesus and a saint; or you should trust in Jesus and this religious leader.

But Jesus and the Bible and God the Father and the Holy Spirit point only to Jesus Christ Himself.

Amen and amen.