

## The Tradition of Men Part 2: Notes

*KJV Matthew 15:2* Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

3 But he answered and said unto them, *Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?*

**Verse 6...** *Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect (rob of its authority) by your tradition.*

**Tradition paradosis** is the act of giving up something or exchanging something for word of mouth!

**Traditions** are beliefs and practices handed down by word of mouth have robbed the church of the truth and power of God's Word!

There are stories that have been handed down for generations in text books, through stage, film and television that have become a way of life that has robbed us of the truth of God's Word!

*NIV Colossians 2:8* See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

The KJ uses the word "**rob**" to illustrate just how violent, and forceful human tradition can be!

Man's Traditions **rob** us of what is good and true and replaces it with (philosophy) human knowledge and tradition!

**One such tradition passed down over the centuries has characterized Christianity as white and Eurocentric!**

As I mentioned a large reason for this is the lie that has been promoted for centuries if not millennia that the **black man is cursed**.

Dark skinned people and mainly black people were **falsely** believed to be cursed by Noah (Gen 9:18-27).

Noah places a curse **not** on Ham but on Ham's son Canaan.

*NIV Genesis 9:25 he said, "Cursed be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers."*

Ham's sons are **Cush** (Ethiopia), **Mizraim** (Egypt), **Put**, (Mediterranean Africa) and **Canaan** (Palestine and parts of Asia Minor).  
His brothers **Shem's** descendants were (Israel) and **Japheth's** were (Philistines)!

In the **Midrash** a 5<sup>th</sup> century Jewish commentary we find this:

*"Noah says to Ham you have prevented me from doing something in the dark (cohabitation) therefore your seed will be ugly and dark skinned."*

The 6<sup>th</sup> century Jewish commentary The **Babylonia Talmud** has this:

*The descendants of Ham are cursed by being black, sinful and their offspring will be increasingly degenerate.* (decline in every way)

The idea was introduced to Islam during the Arab expansion of the 7th century.

Some medieval Muslim writers wrote the effects of Noah's curse on Ham's descendants *included blackness, slavery, and a requirement not to let the hair grow past the ears.*

This contradicts of the teachings of their prophet Muhammad regarding skin color and racial equality, most notably in his last sermon.

**This obviously made being black and dark skin undesirable by the worlds (3) three great religions.**

During the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries as the Roman Empire begins collapsing Christianity starts moving from East to West it begins taking on a more Eurocentric flavor.

- And people of color especially black people have been fighting this idea for literally thousands of years in one form or another.

**It's important to realize God never cursed Ham or Canaan, Noah did and nowhere in scripture do we see God enforcing what Noah said.**

In fact the opposite is true God blesses Noah and his sons:

*KJV Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.*

*KJV Numbers 23:8 How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, whom the LORD hath not defied?*

Balaam said he could not curse who God has blessed and neither could Noah!

People from the world's great religions have all wanted to believe the black man is cursed, why?

Why the black man of all people of the earth?

**We have got to know we are NOT CURSED! But Blessed!**

You have got to see yourself the way God truly sees you and understand why some don't see you as blessed!

Once you understand why you are seen, handled and treated poorly by some you will know how to properly respond.

Once you are educated and informed about why a problem persists you will not approach the problem with anger and emotion.

*Job 13:1 "My eyes have seen all this, my ears have heard and understood it.*

*2 What you know, I also know; I am not inferior to you.*

Once you truly understand you are not inferior to anyone it changes how to see the world and changes your place in it!

In **Eph 2:2** Paul says the **non-believer** used to follow the ways of the world and were controlled by the prince of the power of the air.

The Prince of the power of the air—controls the airways of earth's atmosphere where information travels that influences the world.

I once told you about **Edward Bernays** the father of propaganda and public relations. I'll quote him:

*“The conscious and intelligent manipulation of the organized habits and opinions of the masses is an important element in a democratic society. Those who manipulate this unseen mechanism of society constitute an invisible government which is the true ruling power of our country.”*

*“We are governed, our minds molded, our tastes formed, our ideas suggested, largely by men we have never heard of. This is a logical result of the way in which our democratic society is organized. Vast number of human beings must cooperate in this manner if they are to live together as a smoothly functioning society.”*

<sup>ESV</sup> **Ephesians 6:11** *Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.*

**12** *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

Basically the world is controlled by the people who control what we see, read, hear and understand.

<sup>NJB</sup> **2 Corinthians 10:3** *For although we are human, it is not by human methods that we do battle.*

We are seeing an increase in racially, religiously and politically motivated hate crimes.

**My brothers and sisters the enemy is not human flesh and blood!** He's getting us to kill one another—our enemy hates all humanity.

Our enemy is not black, white, Muslim, Christian, republican or democrat it's that old serpent, Satan The Devil. (Rev 20:2)

<sup>KJV</sup> **Romans 12:1** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

Paul says our bodies (our flesh and bone) are to be offered up to God daily as holy sacrifices—not offered to racism, sexism, classism or the world system!

*2 Do not model your behavior on the contemporary world, but let the renewing of your minds transform you, so that you may discern for yourselves what is the will of God -- what is good and acceptable and mature.*

Not letting the world shape our minds and dictate our deeds but renew our minds, change how we think so we can accurately discern the will of God and do what is good and acceptable.

**To further prove Black people or dark skinned people were not and are not curse next time we'll look at the black man's place in scripture.**