

Christian Traditions that are not Christian

Jesus made it very clear that following man-made traditions that go against God's commands are **UNACCEPTABLE** - Mark 7:5-9 - 5 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?" 6 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. 7 **THEY WORSHIP ME IN VAIN; their teachings are but RULES TAUGHT BY MEN.**' 8 **YOU HAVE LET GO OF THE COMMANDS OF GOD and are HOLDING ON TO THE TRADITIONS OF MEN.**" 9 And he said to them: "You have a fine way of SETTING ASIDE THE COMMANDS OF GOD in order to observe your own traditions!

Loyalty and allegiance to your country despite God's command concerning the world.

We are commanded not to love the world - 1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Our relationship with the world automatically affects our relationship with God - James 4:4 You adulterous people, don't you know that **friendship with the world IS hatred toward God**? Anyone who **chooses** to be a friend of the world **becomes an enemy of God.**

Doing nothing with unbelievers, instead of making it a main part of our ministry

Jesus, our example - Matt 9:11-12 - 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" 12 On hearing this, **Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.**

We are to engage the world to bring them to Christ - 1 Cor 5:9-13 - 9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10 **NOT AT ALL MEANING THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD** who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. 12 **WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF MINE TO JUDGE THOSE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH?** Are you not to judge those inside? 13 **God will judge those outside.** "Expel the wicked man from among you."

Responding with hate TO ANYONE! This is the opposite of the Love which we all are commanded to show to everyone

Hate is NEVER an option - Gal 5:14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "**Love your neighbor as yourself.**"

Part of the evidence we are a Christian is our love for other Christians...ALL Christians - 1 John 3:14-15 - 14 We know that we have passed from death to life, BECAUSE WE LOVE OUR BROTHERS. **Anyone who DOES NOT LOVE REMAINS IN DEATH.** 15 **Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer,** and you know that **no murderer has eternal life in him.**

Allowing divisions in the Church though all Christians represent one body

We are part of a single body - 1 Cor 12:25 so that there should be NO DIVISION IN THE BODY, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

All Christians should be in sync - Phil 2:2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

The world says husband is the master of the wife while God states he is a partner to his wife with the role of being the head

Husband is the head, but the relationship is a partnership - 1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker PARTNER and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, **SO THAT nothing will hinder your prayers.**

Marriage is treated carelessly, while marriage is sacred

Christians can only marry Christian's - 2 Cor 6:14-15 - 14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

Believers understand the sanctity of marriage - Matt 19:4-6 - 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore **what God has joined together, let man not separate.**"

Only death and adultery can allow separation and remarriage for one of the believers - Matt 19:9 I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Accept all who claim to be Christian, while KNOWING all who claim Christianity are not all Christian

God provides the identification for True Christians - Matt 7:15-16 - 15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 **BY THEIR FRUIT YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THEM.**

We are giving a false sense of security to those that claim to be Christians but are not - Matt 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.**

Doing the Will of the Father, requires getting and applying the Word - Matt 7:24 "THEREFORE everyone who HEARS THESE WORDS OF MINE and PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Forcing Christianity on unbelievers

The world does not have the ability to understand true Christianity - 1 Cor 2:13-14 - 3 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing **spiritual truths in **spiritual words.** 14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are **foolishness to him,** and HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND THEM, because they are **spiritually discerned.****

Christians are tasked to minister to the world and make disciples of all people- Matt 28:18-20 - 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make **disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I **have commanded you.** And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**