

Why Can't Traditional Christianity Teach The Gospel of the Kingdom of God?

by James Faulkner

2 Corinthians 3:14 But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ.

This scripture is talking about Jew's minds being opened by the testimony of Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:15-16 (15) But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. (16) Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

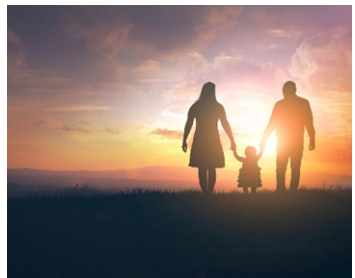
I propose to you today that traditional Christianity that preaches a false Christ, also can not see or teach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God which Christ taught, because of a veil that covers their eyes to the truth. I believe that veil is the false traditions of men that helps keep them from seeing the truth.

1) False tradition number 1: The Trinity.

The word trinity does not appear in the Bible and yet it is one of the core doctrines of traditional Christianity and in fact most who believe this doctrine believe that you are not a Christian unless you believe this tradition of men that is not even in the Bible.

What biblical truth does this false tradition keep people from seeing?

God is a family, not a trinity. Father, Son. Sounds like a family. Christ to marry the Church. Husband and Wife, sounds like a family. We are God's children and siblings to one another, sounds like a family. Do we have a scripture to clearly show this?



Ephesians 3:14-15 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, (15) from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

God is a family, not a trinity. And the trinity doctrine blinds them of this biblical truth.

2) False tradition number 2: Sunday Worship.

There are no scriptures in the Bible that move the Sabbath to Sunday. None. It was moved as a tradition of men and to support this false doctrine they also must teach that Jesus did away with the law. They refuse to keep the Sabbath, so they can keep this false tradition of men.

Exodus 20:8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.



God tells us to remember the day he set aside and keep it holy. To justify their disobedience to this command, some claim that Jesus did away with the law. That is a blatant lie.

Matthew 5:17-18 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. (18) For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

When you teach the law is done away, then you turn the grace of God into license to sin: You create somebody who has no remorse for breaking God's law. What a travesty.

Hebrews 10:26-27 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, (27) but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

And because we believe that we must be putting sin out of our lives, we are often falsely accused of believing that we are saved by the law and not by grace. That's because they teach law OR grace, but we teach law AND grace. When we fall short in our efforts we can

repent and receive grace. The bible is clear that you can not know God unless you are obeying his commandments.

1 John 2:4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

The Sabbath is a commandment of God and if you want to get to know God, you must start keeping it.

3) False tradition number 3. Keeping Easter.

Jesus never instructed any of his followers to keep Easter, but he did instruct his follower to do something in memory of him.

Luke 22:17-20 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; (18) for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." (19) And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (20) Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."



They forsake the request of our savior, so they can instead keep a tradition of men. Stunning, the blind leading the blind.

4) False tradition number 4: Keeping Christmas.

The word Christmas does not appear in the Bible and yet it is one of traditional Christianity's core doctrines. Seems I keep repeating myself, this is not in the Bible, but a core belief. It is base on a total lie that Jesus was born on December 25th.

I was part of a Church that kept the Feast of Tabernacles and then began to teach it is fine if you also want to keep Christmas. And some people started keeping both the Feast of Tabernacles and Christmas. But in a few short years it was just too difficult to keep both of them, so they dropped one celebration. Did they drop the one

commanded by God or the tradition of men? Oh yes, they dropped the Feast of Tabernacles and just kept Christmas. And that is the way Satan wants it. Don't listen to God, but follow the traditions of men. It's the easy path. I left that Church, because I wasn't following a leader or a Church as I have often been accused. I was following the truth of the Bible and when this Church stopped teaching the truth it was time for me to go.

Is the Feast of Tabernacle mentioned in the New Testament.

John 7:2-8 Now the Jews' **Feast of Tabernacles was at hand.**

(3) His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. (4) For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." (5) For even His brothers did not believe in Him. (6) Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. (7) The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. (8) **You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast,** for My time has not yet fully come."



John 7:14 Now about **the middle of the feast Jesus went up** into the temple and taught.

Not only is it mentioned, Christ told others to keep it and set the example of keeping it himself. In my Bible the book of John is in the New Testament. The Feast of Tabernacles kept in the New Testament and Christmas is not mentioned in the Old or New Testament.

5) False tradition number 5: The Immortal Soul.

The word "soul" appears in the Bible in 302 verses and "immortal" appears in 1 verse. The phrase "immortal soul", you guessed it, does not appear in the Bible. I sound like a broken record. Jesus taught that the soul can be destroyed.



Matthew 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather **fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

Who are you going to believe? Your Sunday preacher or Jesus? Myself, I believe Jesus. Because they believe in an immortal soul, they can not understand the resurrections.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (13) But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. (14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. (15) For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. (16) **For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.** (17) Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

At my Dad's funeral the Sunday preacher actually read these scriptures and then stated, "Bill is with the Lord today."

I was like what? You just read he would be raised at Christ's return and then lied and said he was with Jesus. It was stunning to me how he could read the truth and claim the lie in the same breath.

You have to be careful how you teach this resurrection truth. When I was a teenager, I was walking to my room and all of the sudden I heard my grandmother in the kitchen start shrieking and crying. I ran into the kitchen where mom and dad were with her and asked, "What's wrong with Granny?" Mom explained that Dad was trying to explain the resurrections and stated the Granddad wasn't in heaven. Of course, from Granny's perspective if you say Granddad is not in heaven, then you are saying he is in hell, because traditional Christians have no concept of the resurrections. So, learn a lesson from my dad and if you are going to say someone is not in heaven, it is

best to precede that statement with the fact that you don't believe they are in hell either. Just, word of caution.

6) False tradition number 6: Once saved always saved.

John 3:15 (15) that **whoever believes in Him** should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, **you will be saved.**

Romans 10:13 For **"WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED."**

That sounds pretty convincing, doesn't it? Just pronounce the name of Jesus and accept him as your lord and savior and you shall be saved.

When Jesus was confronted with a scripture that seemed to say more than it really did, how did he respond? He would say, It is also written and quote clarifying scriptures and that's what I am going to do, it is also written:

Luke 9:62 But Jesus said to him, **"No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."**



Philippians 3:8-14 (8) Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ (9) and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; (10) that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, (11) if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (12) **Not that I have already attained**, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. (13) **Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended;** but

one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, (14) I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 9:27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Jesus and the Apostle Paul both knew a Christian must endure until the end in order to be saved.

Matthew 24:13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

7) False tradition number 7: Kingdom of God is inside of you.

Luke 17:20-21 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; (21) nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

This is an obvious poor translation, the word within would be better translated among you. Now, how do I know that?

- a. Jesus was talking to the Pharisees and he did not believe the Kingdom of God was within them. If you read Matthew 23 that becomes very clear. Also the scripture:

Matthew 5:20 For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

- b. In other places Jesus referred to himself as the Kingdom of God being present among them:

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

- c. Also, God's Kingdom is not of this world and flesh and blood can not inherit it.

John 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

1 Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

8) In Conclusion: It isn't their time.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (18) But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Luke 8:10 And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND.'

Now, I don't condemn these Sunday keepers, because they truly are blind and don't see. It isn't their time, but that day will come someday and the veil will be lifted. Won't that be a great day!

However brethren, let us not let false traditions of men blind us to the precious truths of God we have been blessed with.

Mark 7:6-9 He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR FROM ME. (7) AND IN VAIN THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN.' (8) For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men-- the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do." (9) He said to them, "All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.

He who has ears to hear, let them hear.