Traditions And The Bible
Mark 7:1-13

Intro. A. Tradition is a powerful force in any culture.
1. It is the companion of Peer Pressure.
2. Tradition is the act or belief and peer pressure is the enforcer.

B. Tradition is a two-edged sword.
1. It can nurture truth and good things.
2. It can change good and destroy truth.

C. In these thirteen verses, the word "tradition" appears 5 times.
1. ἱππαστέος = delivery, the act of delivering over from one to another. Here one generation handing over to another.
2. Each time they are used they have a bad connotation.

I. The Act And The Accusation

A. The accusers.
Vs. 1
1. Pharisees = majority religious party.
2. Scribes = Copiers of the Scriptures.

B. The act.
11. Vs. 2
2. "defiled" = κολνώς = common, in common, that which is opposed to the divine, ceremonially unclean.
Coming in contact with things day to day.
13. "fault" = μηχηρος = to blame, to criticize.
IV. The Answer of Jesus.

A. Isaiah had spoken words that applied to these people.

Vs. 6
1. Isa. 29:13-
   2. Their worship was flattery and self-serving, i.e. entertainment.

B. Their worship was empty.

Vs. 7
1. "It is but an empty show" — WMS
2. They take what men teach and make them binding doctrines of religion.

C. They gave up the Scriptures.

Vs. 8
1. "you give up what God has commanded..." WMS.
2. "you cling to what men hand down..." WMS.
3. "...and many other such like things ye do..." WMS.

V. Jesus Proved His Statement.

Vs. 9
A. They made a bad trade.
   1. "reject" = ἀθέτεω = to displace, set aside, to cast off, to get rid of.
   2. "the commandment of God..." Why?
   3. "...that ye may keep your own tradition".

B. Jesus used the Old Testament.

Vs. 10
1. Ex. 20:12, Lev. 20:9
2. Deut. 5:16
3. This is what God commanded.

C. what the Jews had done.

Vs. 11
1. The tradition they used to not honor their father and mother was corban.