**Teaching For Doctrines The Commandments Of Men**

Matt 15:9 reads "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." So we should teach the commandments of God instead of the commandments of men.

Why is this important? If we teach for doctrines the commandments of men our worship will be vain - useless, worthless - it is not accomplishing its intended purpose. One of the reason we worship God is so that we can go to heaven, but if our worship is not accomplishing that purpose intended, we will be lost.

How do we know if a particular teaching is a commandment of men? Well, if we can find the teaching in God's word, then we know it is a commandment of God. If we can't find it there, it must be a commandment of men.

Praying to Mary: Commandment of God or commandment of men? Can any of our listeners find it taught by God's word?

* Matt 6:9 "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name."
* Acts 10:25-26 "And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man."

Purgatory: Commandment of God or of men? Is it be mentioned anywhere in the Bible?

* Rev 14:13 "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."
* II Cor 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

Sprinkling for baptism: Commandment of God or commandment of men? Can any of our listeners find it taught by God's word?

* Rom 6:4 "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death ..." - we all know what buried means
* Rom 6:5 "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection" - sprinkling does not fit the picture of the burial and resurrection of Christ

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Perpetual Virginity of Mary: Commandment of God or of men? Where is it taught in the Bible?

* Matt 1:24-25 "Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife (Mary): And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name Jesus." That implies that Joseph and Mary had normal marital relations after Jesus was born, correct?
* Mark 6:3 "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? ..." - If Jesus had brothers and sisters, then that would mean Mary had other children after Jesus, right?

Infant baptism: Commandment of God or commandment of men? Can any of our listeners find it taught by God's word?

* Acts 8:36-37 "And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." – the implication is that if a person does not believe, they may not be baptized. And an infant can’t believe.
* Mark 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." – belief comes first and then baptism

Original Sin: The very reason infant baptism was invented was because of the false concept of “original sin.” If an infant is born guilty of Adam’s sin, then the Catholic Church reasoned they better baptize him to get rid of that sin. One false doctrine led to another.

* Ezek 18:20 "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."
* Eccl 7:29 "This only have I found: God created mankind upright, but they have gone in search of many schemes." (NIV)

Priest can’t marry?

* Peter had a mother in law Matt 8:14-15 “And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.”
* I Tim 4:1-4 “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; **Forbidding to marry**, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:”