

Sola Scriptura

Christ exalts Scripture above tradition and relationships above religious ritual.

Matthew 15:1-20

- I. The Catholic tradition of selling indulgences is the impetus for Martin Luther's 95 theses
- II. Jesus is challenged by the scribes and Pharisees about tradition (15:1-11)
 - The tradition of washing
 - The tradition of "Corban" vs. the fifth commandment
 - The Word of God must be the core of our worship
 - When a tradition keeps us from the commandment to love others,
it nullifies the Word of God
 - Jesus teaches the crowds about what is the true defilement
 - What laws and traditions do we hold that erect a barrier from others?
- III. Jesus teaches the disciples (15:12-20)
 - The disciples' timid report
 - Jesus' forthright reply – the religious leaders are unregenerate
 - The disciples lack of understanding
 - Jesus' clarification on outward acts vs. the heart
- V. What can wash away your sin?
- VI. What about our tradition?
- VII. A final word from brother Martin on the unique power of God's Word