

THE ORIGINS OF THE GREEK BIBLE

How We Got the New Testament

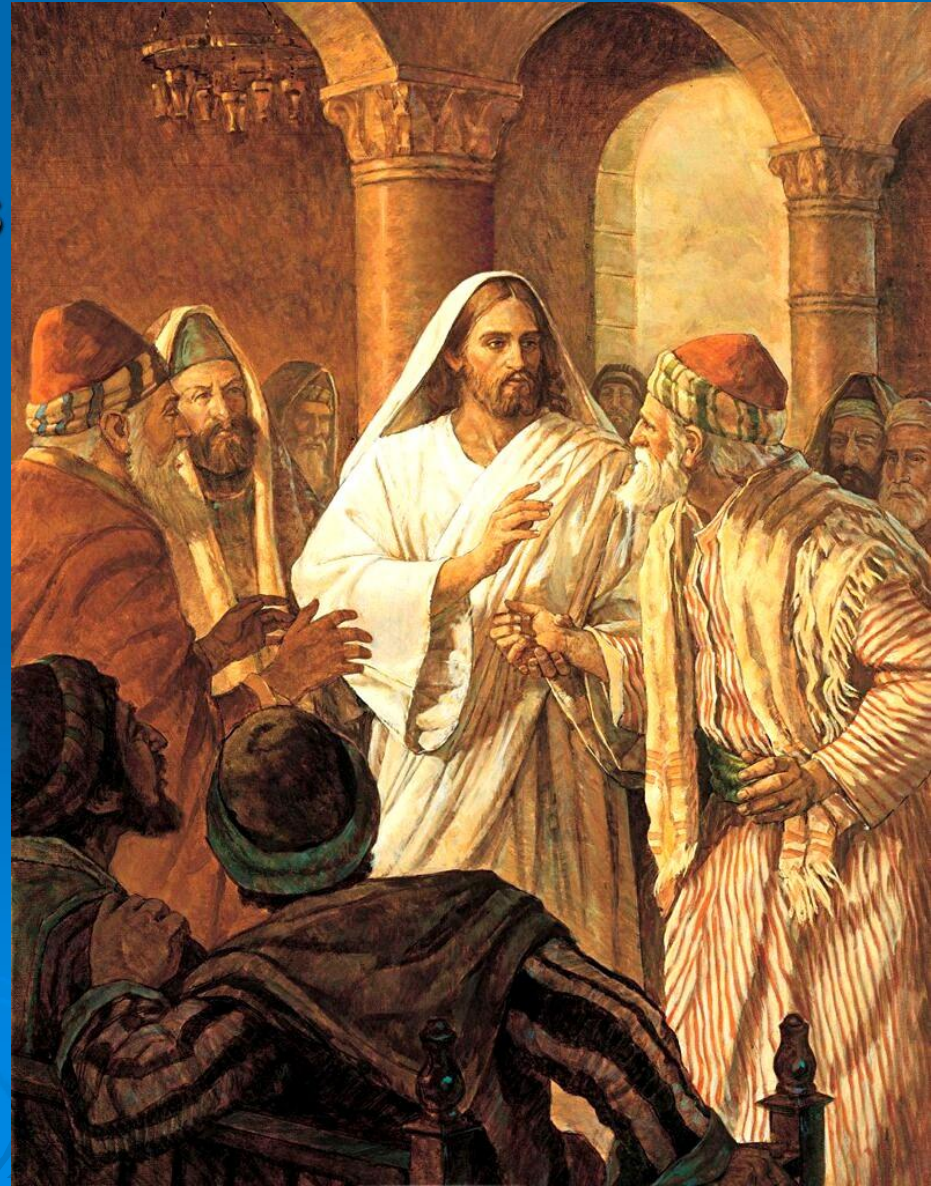
- Matthew the most Jewish of any of the Gospels
- Mark was meant to be read by gentile Romans
- Earliest complete NT manuscripts from 350 A.D.
- This means a 250 year gap between original documents and the earliest copies of them we have
- Inevitable that some small amount of editing and editorializing occurred over that time period



- Doctrine, in dictionary terms, is neutral meaning a faith principle or rule based on a biblical interpretation
- Today, doctrine means something that committees of men have created as rules and principles for their denomination
- In Torah Class, I use the term as a negative as man made doctrines too often tend to override the Bible

MATTHEW CHAPTER 15

- Chapter 15 begins with another confrontation
- These are synagogue leaders coming from Jerusalem to accuse Jesus
- This did not involve Priests or Levites since they were part of the Temple system and didn't yet have their eyes on Him
- Mark 7:1 – 15 records the same incident
- The confrontation was about ritual hand-washing





N'tilat Yadayim

- Traditions of the Elders was the subject
- Nothing in verses 2 - 20 have to do with Holy Scripture
- Traditions of the Elders = Jewish Law = Oral Law = Oral Torah = Halachah
- Man made rules of the Synagogue
- Matthew & Yeshua use the term “Traditions of the Elders” negatively

VERSES

2 - 20

NOTHING TO DO WITH KOSHER EATING



- W. D. Davies Commentary on Matthew *“We do not find in Matthew 15 an abolition of the OT purity laws.....”*
- Matthew 5:17 – 20 *“...unless your righteousness is far greater than the Torah teachers and Pharisees...not enter the Kingdom of Heaven”*
- Scribes and Pharisees were counting on adherence to man made Jewish Law for their righteousness

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TALMUD & TORAH

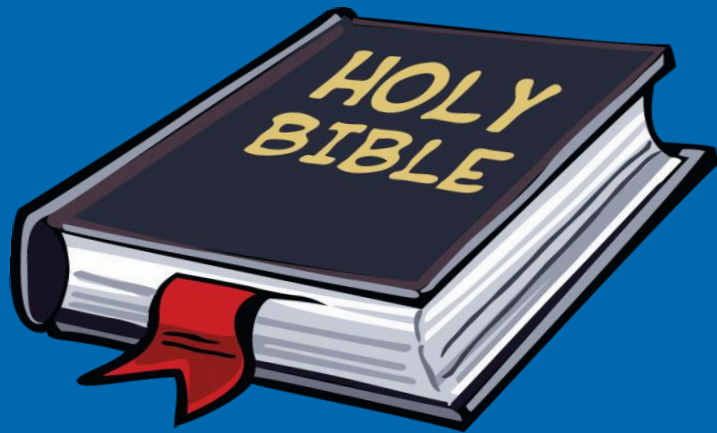


- A troubling trend in Messianic Synagogues to study the Talmud as much or more than the Scriptures
- We must never think that our Traditions of Judaism or Christianity represent our righteousness before God
- The Essenes were also troubled by the synagogue leadership's focus on Traditions
- Dead Sea Scroll 1QH 4:14 - 15

THE CONCERN OVER RITUAL PURITY



- Yeshua asks why the Pharisees break God's commandments by obeying Traditions of the Elders
- A major concern in the Synagogue over contact with gentiles, which was not avoidable at the marketplace
- The line between Tradition and Scripture quickly blurs
- Pharisees extended the ritual washing rules to all objects even including non-porous bronze vessels



- Christ did NOT abolish the Torah, and our duty as Believers is to obey
- Homosexuality is an abomination to God; marriage is only between a man and a woman
- God says to obey His Biblical Feasts in perpetuity for all who worship Him
- God says to observe the biblical 7th day Sabbath in perpetuity

- Christ DID abolish the Torah and if we obey the Law of Moses we sin
- Homosexuality is OK, because Jesus is love. Marriage is now our own definition
- Feasts are too Jewish. Created new celebrations such as Easter and Christmas
- No more Sabbath. Add the new Lord's Day. A Sabbath rest can be any day we choose



Doctrines of men



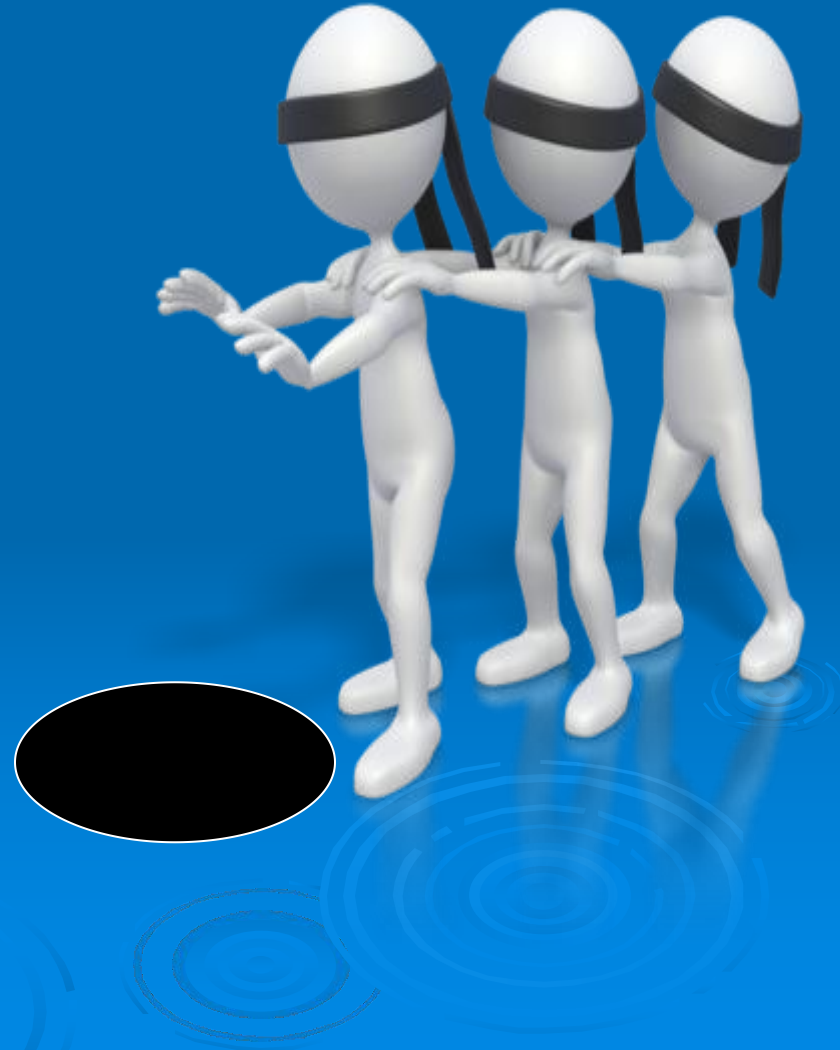
- Yeshua invokes Isaiah
- Isaiah 29:13 – 14
- Pharisees' & Scribes' claim of worshipping God is worthless
- Yeshua turns His attention to the crowd that is witnessing the debate
- ***“..... rather what comes out of the mouth, that is what makes him unclean”***
- This debate is NOT about food, it is about the ritual purity rules

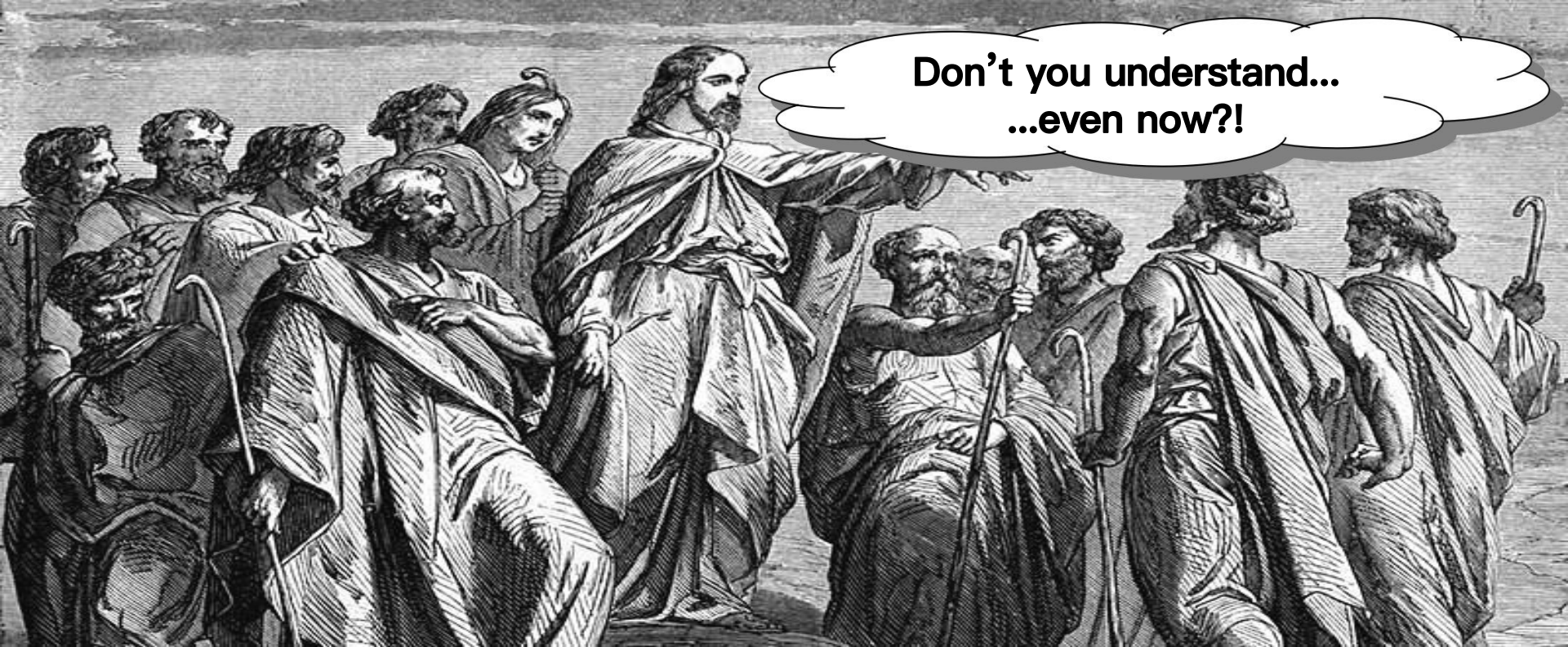


- Bible commentators say that Jesus changed the subject when speaking to the crowd !
- In vs. 19, Yeshua lists the sins that “really make a person unclean”
- Disciples horrified at Christ’s words and were worried that He had deeply offended the Pharisees and Scribes

BLIND GUIDES

- *“Every plant My Father in Heaven has NOT planted will be pulled up by the roots”*
- This refers to the Parable of the Tares
- Those who rely on Traditions of the Elders are the seeds planted by Satan
- Christ doesn't intend to do anything against the Pharisees and Scribes
- Acute problem is when the blind don't realize their leader (or they) are blind





- Yeshua was not happy with His disciples over still not understanding His words
- Yeshua in mercy explained further using metaphor and a sort-of Parable
- The disciples clearly still adhered to the leadership of the Synagogue and their man made rules