

Interpretations  
Mt 15:3-9  
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of knowing the difference of interpretations & truth.

Intro:

1. How many times have you heard the phrase “that’s your interpretation”?
2. Sadly some today, would rather redefine terms than to follow or teach plain Bible teachings.

I. Man’s “intreprations”.

A. Interpret defined.

1. “: to explain or tell the meaning of : present in understandable terms”  
(Merriam-Webster)
2. This basic definition of “interpret” is simply explain something for the hearer in “understandable terms”

B. Is that all that some are doing today?

1. Consider our text (**Mt 15:4-5**)
2. “But you say...”(**v.5**), is where some “interpretations” end up.

II. From truth to intrepreations

A. When does teaching change from truth to an “interpretation”

1. When the **scriptures are twisted** to say something it does not.
  - a. **Ps 56:5**, David’s enemies twisted his words, some do the same to God’s word; **2 Pt 3:16b**
2. When a person **“redefines” terms** to fit their beliefs.
  - a. Is this not exactly what happened in **Matthew 15:3-6**?
3. Sometimes intreprtations are **based on emotions**. (**Mt 10:34-36**)
  - a. Some people today will even literally cutout sections of scripture because it offends them. (Let us never become so hard-hearted).

B. Interpretations are not Bible truths

1. Just like there are many translations of the Bible but there is still only one Bible
2. There may be many interpretations of scripture but there is only one truth.
  - a. God’s Word, unchanged, just as it is, is truth (**Jn 17:17**).

III. The importance of Truth

A. Only God’s Word saves

1. Man’s interpretations are sometimes referred to as “fables” etc in the Bible (**Titus 1:14, Mt 15:7-9**)
2. Fables separates man from God (**2 Pt 1:16-17**).

B. Interpretations is responsible for divisions.

1. It is important to remember that is is interpretations & false teachings that separates brethren, not truth.
2. God desires for all men to be “one” (**Jn 17:20-21**)

Conc:

1. No such thing as “interpretations”; its truth or its not. (Landon Rowell)
2. You are free to have opinions about most things, but when it comes to the Bible, there is only one truth, God’s word & not man’s interpretations of it.
3. Full Invitation