

Worldly Wisdom & Religious Traditions are Worthless

Truth

- 1 Peter 1:18-21 (NKJV)
- 18 knowing that you were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your **aimless conduct** received by **tradition** from your fathers, 19 **but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.** 20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you 21 who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.
 - **redeemed: Romans 3:24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace Colossians 1:14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.**
 - **redeemed: 2. everywhere in the N. T. metaph., viz. deliverance effected through the death of Christ from the retributive wrath of a holy God and the merited penalty of sin:**
 - **aimless conduct** : empty (vacuous) – **devoid of significance**, point, or benefit.
 - μάταιος, -αία (1 Co. 15:17; [1 Pet. 1:18]), -αιον, also -ος, -ον, (Jas. 1:26; Tit. 3:9), [cf. WH. App. p. 157; W. §11, 1], (fr. μάτην), Sept. for כָּזָב, אִשָּׁר, לָצֵק (a lie), etc.: as in prof. auth. (Lat. vanus) devoid of force, truth, success, result, [A. V. uniformly vain]: univ.: ἡ θρησκεία, Jas. 1:26; useless, to no purpose, ἡ πίστις, 1 Co. 15:17; foolish, διαλογισμοί, 1 Co. 3:20; ζητήσεις, Tit. 3:9; given to vain things and leading away from salvation, ἀναστροφή, 1 Pet. 1:18. τὰ μάταια, vain things, vanities, of heathen deities and their worship (הַבָּל, Jer. 2:5; 10:3; יִלְךְ אַחֲרֵי הַבָּל, πορεύεσθαι ὀπίσω τῶν ματ. 2 K. 17:15; מִלְכֵּי, μάταια, Jer. 8:19; εἰδωλα, Deut. 32:21; Jer. 14:22): Acts 14:15.
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- Doers not hearers Only : James 1:26 (NKJV)
- 26 If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is **useless**.
- Avoid dissension: Titus 3:9 (NKJV)
- 9 But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and – (given to vain things and leading away from salvation)
- Matthew 23:23-25 (NKJV)
- 23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected **the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith**. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. 24 **Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!** 25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.
 - Psalm 85:10 **Mercy and truth** have met together; **Righteousness and peace** have kissed.
 - Psalm 85:1-13 (NKJV)
 - 1 Lord, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah

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- 3 You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger. 4 Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease. 5 Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations? 6 Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You? 7 Show us Your mercy, Lord, And grant us Your salvation. 8 **I will hear what God the Lord will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly.** 9 Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land. 10 **Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.** 11. Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven. 12. Yes, the Lord will give what is good; And our land will yield its increase. 13 Righteousness will go before Him, And shall make His footsteps our pathway.
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- useless.
- The Risen Christ Our Hope – 1 Corinthians 15:17 (NKJV)
- 17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!
 - Romans 4:25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.
- Worldly Wisdom – 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 (NKJV)
- 18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their own craftiness"; 20 and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." 21 Therefore let no one boast in men. For all things are yours: 22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or things present or things to come—all are yours. 23 And you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.
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- God's case Against Israel Jeremiah 2:5 (NKJV)
- 5 Thus says the Lord: "What injustice have your fathers found in Me, That they have gone far from Me, Have followed idols, And have become idolaters? – vanities or futilities
- Deuteronomy 32:1-4 "Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. 2 Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass. 3 For I proclaim the name of the Lord: Ascribe greatness to our God. 4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of **truth** and without **injustice**; **Righteous** and upright is He.
- justice: (quality)– the quality of being free from favoritism, self-interest, bias, or deception; especially conforming to established standards or rules.
- truth: faithfulness – the quality of being faithful; (steadiness; honesty; security; truth)
- injustice:evil behavior – morally objectionable behavior.
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- Jeremiah 10:1-5 (NKJV)
- 1 Hear the word which the Lord speaks to you, O house of Israel. 2 Thus says the Lord: "Do not learn the way of the Gentiles; Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, For the Gentiles are dismayed at them. 3 For the customs of the peoples are futile; For one cuts a tree from the forest, The work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. 4 They decorate it with silver and gold; They fasten it with nails and hammers So that it will not topple. 5 They are upright, like a palm tree, And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, For they cannot do evil, Nor can they do any good."

- Jeremiah 10:8 (NKJV)
- 8 But they are altogether **dull-hearted** and foolish; A wooden idol is a worthless doctrine.
 - **dull-hearted: to be stupid – to be or become unintelligent or marked by a lack of intellectual acuity.**
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- Shalmaneser king of Assyria
- 2 Kings 17:13-18 (NKJV)
- 13 Yet the Lord testified against Israel and against Judah, by all of His prophets, every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and My statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets." 14 Nevertheless they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God. 15 **And they rejected His statutes and His covenant that He had made with their fathers, and His testimonies which He had testified against them; they followed idols, became idolaters, and went after the nations who were all around them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them that they should not do like them.** 16 So they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, made for themselves a molded image and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. 17 And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. 18 Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone. **– idols, became idolaters they followed vanity and became vain**
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- the Perils of False teaching
- Jeremiah 8:8-9 (NKJV)
- 8 "How can you say, 'We are wise, And the law of the Lord is with us'? Look, **the false pen of the scribe certainly works falsehood.** 9 The wise men are ashamed, They are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the Lord; So what wisdom do they have?
- Jeremiah 8:18-22 (NKJV)
- the prophet mourns
- 18 I would comfort myself in sorrow; My heart is faint in me. 19 Listen! The voice, The cry of the daughter of My people— From a far country: "Is not the Lord in Zion? Is not her King in her?" "Why have they provoked Me to anger With their carved images— With foreign idols?" 20 "The harvest is past, The summer is ended, And we are not saved!" 21 For the hurt of the daughter of my people I am hurt. I am mourning; Astonishment has taken hold of me. 22 Is there no balm in Gilead, Is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery For the health of the daughter of my people?
- Deuteronomy 32:21 (NKJV)
- 21 They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.
- Jeremiah 14:21-22 (NKJV)
- 21 Do not abhor us, for Your name's sake; Do not disgrace the throne of Your glory. Remember, do not break Your covenant with us. 22 Are there any among the idols of the nations that can cause rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Are You not He, O Lord our God? Therefore we will wait for You, Since You have made all these.
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- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NKJV)
- 14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the **Holy Scriptures**, which are **able to make you wise for salvation** through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 **All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, **for reproof, for correction**, for instruction in righteousness, 17 **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**
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