

**Preacher's Pen**  
**Sunday, February 19, 2006**

### **Doctrines Or Traditions?**

*"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ"*

(Colossians 2:8)

This verse is one (of several) that causes me to regularly remind you to please, not take my word for it. Read the Scriptures for yourselves. Accept no other authority. Look to no other resource for matters of religion and doctrine.

It is my observation that most of the differences between the (literally thousands) of so-called Christian churches can be accounted for by this one element. Unfortunately and since the deceit and fall of Eve and subsequent sin of Adam, mankind's heart by default is content to satisfy the flesh. It takes a conscience effort to turn oneself entirely over to the will of the Lord God, Jehovah and His righteous way.

There are many doctrines and traditions to be found that are manmade and offered to be religiously "right". However, this verse (and many others) makes it abundantly clear that God does not select His path from among those offered by men.

Instead, God has DECLARED His way. Now, it is up to each of us to decide whether or not to follow Him or the traditions of men.

One test of these matters can be conducted by looking at words used to communicate various doctrines. For my part, I desire to use Bible words when discussing Bible related subjects.

Have you completed your homework from last Wednesday evening's Bible study? Reminder: using a concordance, list every verse that uses the word "rapture" or any form of the word.

In Christian Love and Service,  
Lyndal