

13 November 2016: Preached by Rev Quek Suan Yew

**Topic: Life of Christ - In Vain they Worship**

Scripture text: Mark 7:1-13

1. Worship of God is the only thing that will continue in Heaven as all other things on this earth will end when believers depart from this earth. Hence, we should love to worship the Lord every Lord's day service.
2. In the passage, we see the Pharisees emphasising only the rituals in worship. They are only concerned for the externals of worship such as washing of hands before worship. They thought the external forms will draw them close to God.
3. Our worship of the Lord must be in spirit and in truth. It must come from a heart that is sincere and humble before God and we must worship according to God's Word.
4. The worship of the Pharisees then replaced God's Word with their rituals. They honour God with their lips but their hearts are far from God. The basis of God receiving our worship is only through our Lord Jesus Christ, and not our activities. Hence, a person must be born again in order for his worship to be acceptable through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.
5. The worship of the Pharisees became worst as they then rejected the Word of God. They condoned children to break the 5th commandment not to honour their parents if the gifts of the children are given to the Temple. When they reject God's Word, God will also reject them.