Legalism and Standards
Matthew 15:1-9

Legalism

Legalism: using law-keeping to make myself righteousness; I use my works to secure, maintain and enhance God's attitude toward me.

The Pharisees are an example of how some religious groups have dealt with the problem of what a believer must do to be holy.

Seyag "fences"

Gezerot, "fill in the gaps"

Matt 15:1-3 is one of many confrontations between Jesus and the Pharisees because of the *seyag* and *gezerot*.

Standards

At the coming of Christ expectations changed – Matt 5

Murder –

Adultery –

Divorce –

Oaths –

Revenge –

Hatred –

Applications

Culturally driven

Biblically based

A Simple Methodology

Identify the problem to be solved

Collect all the relevant data

Identify the clear teaching of Scripture

Identify any theological implications

Identify the cultural response to the problem

Development an initial rough draft

Create the final version of the standard