

Sound Doctrine

v.s.

False Doctrine

by

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The Bible

There are over 2000 bible thumping denominations in the world. How can one possibly discern the true doctrines from the false? Surely there must be some truth in each, but just as Satan told Eve mostly truths, it appears the lies are enough to get you in the end!

So how can you tell what is true and what is not? Did you know that there isn't even one completely accurate translation of the bible. Most bibles you read have many errors. All those religions who claim the bible is without error are very wrong, and they even know it! You should know that every year the bible companies who print your bible make grammatical changes on each printing. And on top of that, the disciples had many other books they considered scripture and even quote them in our KJV bibles. What about them? Are we to discount them and the disciples opinions?

Doctrine means, "instruction, learning, teaching". What is the basis for false instructions, teachings, and things learned falsely?

"False doctrine!" This is what churches and people scream as they point at each other and their teachings which vary greatly and round and round it goes. When someone is shown something from God that another doesn't have, it is immediately esteemed as false by the one who has not been shown. Then there are demons running everywhere, filling ears full of falsehoods, teaching people, and leading them. It is enough to make one run and hide! Some people make their religious teachings about clothes, rituals, words, habits, and behaviour. Who can tell what is really right? How can you know what is right and wrong?

What is a person to do? How do you know what to believe? How can you know who to believe? Can you just accept what a person says because of who they are? Should you believe something that someone says just because they believe it? Do you base it on credibility, their lives, or by their following? What if you only see the person on a t.v. program or only know them from reading their book? They could be anybody saying anything.

A Big Job

What I have discovered about doctrine comes from the book of 1 Timothy. I'm going to begin with a story of a young man who found himself in this very plight of having to know the difference between what was right to teach and wrong to teach.

Paul was very fond of Timothy, calling him a son. Timothy was a young man who had just been ordained by the presbytery by the laying on of hands, prophecied over, and was at Ephesus with a huge mission from Paul, "**charge some that they teach no other doctrine**". This was Paul's orders to Timothy, this young minister of God. I can't imagine the stress of this...how much could Timothy have known. He was for sure a "newbie".

Paul continues to give Timothy more orders in chapter 1 verse 4, "**Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do**"

Obviously there is much we don't know about God as He is infinite in wisdom and it is even more obvious that much we will never know for many many years, so how do you know what is true and what is not?

Here we see Paul telling Timothy to stay away from stories (things that are made up), people trying to prove their own importance (genealogies), people who make you question that which you know is true, and to stay away from people who do not edify or build up your spirit, by that he clarifies that it must be edification which comes from faith in Jesus (Truth/ the Word).

Edify means to build up improve, instruct, and educate or build up. There are things that edify your flesh and things that edify your spirit. This is the dividing difference between false doctrine and sound doctrine.

Basis for false doctrine

So just what is the foundation of false doctrine? What builds up and strengthens our flesh (demons). It is lies, falsehoods spoken from an evil heart. Where do lies come from? Satan, the father of lies, right? But it isn't like you can just list all the lies and false doctrines and watch out for them. Satan's got a lot of tricks in his bag! His demons are pretty eager to fill wanton ears!

Paul continues his instructions to young Timothy:

1 Tim. 1:6-8 From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm. But we know that the law is good, *if a man use it lawfully*;

Paul is saying, "Timothy..... evil is evil. When people are beating on each other in Jesus's name or the name of the Father, it isn't a good thing....! People that swerve and turn from what they know is true do it for a reason. They do it to be important, to be heard, out of ignorance, or to advance themselves over others. You really can use the truth unlawfully! For the love of being heard (**desiring to be teachers**), being important, you will fall into vain jangling or pointless arguing not even understanding what you are saying or why and all the while feeling quite religious and justified. People who are teaching falsehoods are out to "prove" themselves. This is one of the most common causes and underlying motives of false doctrine. For all teachings carry a point or a reason behind them. Why are you so bent on teaching what you believe? What is the source of your motivation?

Paul then continues to explain and name many types of behaviour that are not approved of by God. But here we begin to see the separation of motive. The point or reason that God told us not to sin is far from the point behind false doctrine. God tells us to stop sinning so we won't die. God convicts us of sins to save us from death. He deeply loves us. His heart is for us. This is far different than

false doctrine, which is wrought out of people who seek to establish themselves and gain importance and seek to inflict others with endless laws, beliefs, and rules to show how godly they themselves are and how far above you they sit. They really aren't interested in your well being, but in establishing their own level of importance in your eyes. Paul was one such person before God blinded him on the road to Damascus. People who establish false doctrines are for themselves, not others, their ultimate love is themselves and their mission. They are edifying and lifting up their flesh (demons).

Paul was killing Christians believing he was upholding the word of God! Sound like anyone you know?! Or ouch, maybe yourself? How many times we inflict others with "the rules", with what is right or wrong and all the horrible things they are doing and then we tell them just how they ought to live. We make mountains for them to climb to get to us, we strike down their hearts with our judgemental words. We do all this by our actions and our words and all in the name of God, meanwhile our hearts are far removed from truth and goodness, mercy and kindness and true concern for their souls and lives. Paul says of himself in verse 13.....

.....I was a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious:

That person that you are beating "your" doctrine into is the person that Jesus died for. Maybe even someone God Himself is living inside of. Why do we feel it is necessary to trash the temple of God and inflict and persecute someone's soul with all our wisdom and teachings? Paul was doing just that and why? He was elevating himself up in rank within the religious community. He was of tremendous important pedigree and was very educated. We would recognize this readily as "the difference between laity and clergy" and as persons acquiring degrees and doctorates to elevate themselves only to gain recognition and honor or as experiences with God aimed at the degradation of others. Not everyone seeks education and enlightenment for these reasons, but many do. God does NOT approve of this kind of behaviour, nor was Jesus this kind of a person.

Jesus met Paul on the road to Damascus and said, "Why are you persecuting Me!" Paul was hurting God's children and God said that His children were in fact Him. And here, Paul was hunting them down and injuring them. He was throwing stones at them. He was segregating them from those whom he considered 'holy' and from himself and in his mind protecting that which is holy and righteous, his mission, and even God.

Here you see what Paul learnt of himself, that in truth, he was not a holy man at all but a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a very injurious person who spouted many religious sentences and kept the law to the letter, or so he thought. See, Paul was following false doctrine. The signs? Blasphemy, persecution, and injuring others all to edify his own flesh.

False doctrine stems from an evil heart. When you seek to establish your 'self' you will quickly begin to practice this. You are actually attempting to become your own God in the name of God, for you see, God never commissioned you to punish. No where will you find it your job or command from Jesus to judge and punish others, to point the finger or ladden people with your burdensome rules and regulations in order to make yourself look good!

1 Tim. 4:1

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

What does it mean to be "speaking lies in hypocrisy"? It means that you aren't

telling the whole truth and you are a hypocrite because your heart already knows the truth and you are in denial, turning from it and changing it into what your flesh wants to get the end result you desire.

"Doctrines or teachings from demons", that is a pretty strong statement but is exactly where this behaviour and way of thinking comes from. Demons can sound very religious and there are many many religious demons.

"Having their conscience seared with a hot iron;" That means that a person who has false doctrine is intentionally shutting God off and doing what he/she knows is wrong and what is worse, teaching it to others and inflicting them! Why?

1 Tim. 6:3-5

If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but dotting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmissings, Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness; from such withdraw thyself.

Envy, strife, railings, evil surmissings, corrupt minds that don't have the truth.....here again we see that the flesh is being edified. This is the manifestation of false doctrine. And then we see why a person speaks false doctrine....."supposing that gain is godliness". There is that evil heart again. It is seeking to advance itself over others. It does this through a corrupt (evil) mind (heart) and portrays itself through envy, arguing, anger, rebellion, thinking evil and surmissing evil of others, blaming others, twisting the truth, and establishing its own ways. Why? How else are you going to lift up yourself and establish yourself and gain that respect and honor you so hunger for? Yet our hearts convict us.....our conscience which we have to sear (punish) to get it to shut up so we can

continue on piously. We actually punish God, so we don't have to obey Him, make up our own doctrine and force it down the throat of others. One main way of doing this is through constant withdrawing of what we think they need, our love and support (sugar) or of constant disapproval (vinegar).

Oh spouter of false doctrine, you know the saying.....You'll catch more flies with sugar than vinegar? But woe to the ones sugar doesn't work on! You'll beat them into submission with your vinegar if you have to. To make them bow the knee and see it your way! Jesus had it right, "Oh viperous generation!" This is the heart of false doctrine! It is not kind. It is that which killed Christ. It is what fueled Hitler's fire!

Summing it up!

False teachings come from evil hearts desiring to be God. It is helped along by demons, enacted by people, and many do it ignorantly in unbelief. Paul said he obtained mercy, "because he did it ignorantly in unbelief". Most don't consciously realise what they are even doing and think, because they want to of course, that they are really doing the right thing, are extra smart, and many times even convinced themselves they are 'helping' the ones they are hurting and persecuting.

What you need to watch out for is your reasons. Ask God to help you. You have no power or ability on your own, but God is the Father of Light and He can show you and help you to escape this trick from hell. It is nice to know that one day we will be rescued from the flesh and that God will give us a glorified body and that demons will be no more!

Remember Eve? She ate of the apple because it 'looked' good, okay? We are drawn away from the truth by 'our' own lusts. We only leave the truth behind

because we 'want' the lie. Be smart and realise that the one who is going to reap the rewards of evil doings is you, okay? God isn't fooled or mocked, whatsoever you sow or do is coming right back to you on a big shiny silver platter! Be smart and get on your knees continually and ask God to search your heart. But more on that later.

The Basis of Sound Doctrine

So what is the basis for all truth? Love is. It is that simple. Love never hurts, is never cruel or unkind, but is the point and reason for the establishment of the law. Love is the reason God came to earth and died for you. Love is what we are to speak from, to live from, to die in, and **those who love not, know not God, for God is love** (1 John 4:8).

All of your bible, all of the blood that Jesus spilled, all of the lives who have gone on before us to heaven? The reason for it all is love. The law was written to keep man from dying, not to bash him in the head with guilt and burden him even more on his way to death, okay? The heavens and earth, were created from God's heart to give life and to create family and to bless.

God came so that you might have life and have it abundantly. We are to wish this on each other, and we are to strive to esteem each other more worthy and to overlook the embarrassing and sometimes awkward and stupid things we do to each other.

Paul told Timothy in ch. 1 verse 5, "**Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:**

This was what Timothy was to look for, the signal of pure doctrine!

The end or purpose of the commandments (rules by God that people claim to follow) is **love** out of a pure heart! This is the point and purpose of God and all He has done and is doing this very moment! This is why we are to live! Not to advance our own little agenda's of self importance, to afflict the souls of those around us. We are to wash each others feet, be humble like Jesus, and live to protect and help and serve one another. To ride side by side into battle, to bear the pains of each other, to take an 'occasional' hit from them without anger and overlook and to be patient and kind and not hurt. Some of us don't exactly know what we are doing, okay? So patience is very appreciated. Sometimes we get our weapons backwards and shoot someone we really didn't mean to, sometimes we take orders from a demon who lowered his voice and sounded almost like the Holy Spirit. Sometimes demons give us spotty chills and fake the presence of God, and we're so tickled to have received something we just run with it!

This is why love covers a multitude of sins. This is why we must be patient, kind, and make allowances for each others mistakes and ignorance. We've all been there, will be there again, and may be there right now! If you don't overlook, God says He isn't going to! I think that alone would be reason enough to make a few allowances for each other.

The bible says that our consciences (our hearts) will bear witness to the Holy Spirit (Rom. 9:1). Paul said if your conscience condemns you God is greater than your conscience and knows all things (1 John 3:20). What is your heart saying? Are you treating others with love or hypocrisy? Are you really living for God, for the good of them, your brothers and sisters? God told Paul when he was killing and persecuting christians that Paul was persecuting Him, Jesus. So when you are living for the good of others and doing what is right, because it is the right,

helpful, good, and edifying thing to do regardless of the outcome for yourself, then your conscience will bear witness with the Holy Spirit and your life will have true peace and you will know the joy of the Lord.

Love (patience, kindness, and making allowances for the mistakes of others) out of a pure heart, a good conscience, and faith that is sincere. That is the basis of all that is true.....sound doctrine.

It isn't about gifts and stature and callings and ministries and who's got the best music or the most power from God or the biggest building or church. It makes no difference how the world or others see you, you are supposed to have made Jesus Lord of your life and not yourself, okay? You are not to serve self, demons, anymore!

What true christianity is.....It is.....are you loving God? Sound doctrine, Truth.....it is Jesus, hanging on a cross giving everything He had for you. Tasting death so you don't have to. It is God being ever so patient with you as you punish him and throw your stones sometimes ignorantly and sometimes willfully. It is someone in India who had to give up all he owned and rides a bicycle and prays for people all because he wouldn't bow to an idol while paying his taxes. It is six million christians feeling honored to die, being fed to lions and ripped and torn apart for the name of Christ. This is the basis of all that is good and true. Giving your life to Jesus, Truth. You are to strive to give up falsehoods (doctrines) for Truth. You are to seek God with all your heart, mind, and soul. To die to flesh (demons) and live unto God (Truth, love, and righteousness).

The Heart of God the Father

Here is God's heart.....

Isa. 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as waters cover the sea.

When you know God the Father, if you really are His and have submitted to Him, then you will not hurt and destroy. You will 'know' Him. You will be for life, the lives of others, to build them up, to heal the broken hearts, and to let the captives go free. You will live to remove the yoke of oppression, cast out the demons, heal the sick, and raise the dead. You will not seek to hurt, destroy, or make anyone suffer or cry. You won't try and burden them with impossible doctrines and teachings and pointless rules and expectations. You will let them grow at their pace and be kind. Any admonishment will be spoken in love and kindness and you will never be eager to point a finger or raise your eyebrows. You will truly care about their soul and do what is best for them, not yourself.

When someone strikes you, you turn your cheek. Why? You don't want to hurt them. When someone asks of you that which they shouldn't, you give them even more than what they asked for. You receive wrong without malice. You are like your Father. This is how he treats you, ever so patient and kind and constantly making allowances for all the ignorance, shortcomings, and silly and stupid things you do and say.

We forgive up to 70 times 7, why? Our Father, also does this for us. We live to bless, not curse. We love, not hate.

Paul said in 1 Tim. 6:3 ".....**wholesome words (doctrine), even the words of Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness,** "

Godliness means, like God. We are to try and act like God, not BE god, okay?

1 Tim. 6:6

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

Forget trying to gain the approval of others! You don't need it! When God accepts your persons, that is all you need. Live unto His eyes and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness. Don't worry about what others say or do. Do what ever you do because it is the 'right' thing to do. The thing that God, love, would do.

Sometimes you will hurt people's feelings, but when you do, it will be done for the right reasons, because you honestly care for them, not to advance your self. You will speak the truth in love. You will also find that false doctrine will start to stick out like a sore thumb when your heart becomes more pure.

Godliness with contentment means that you don't 'need' from others. It is this needing, this looking to for approval and love that taints the truth in your life and creates and welcomes false doctrine. When you 'need' and look to God only, then your heart becomes pure and you will see Truth and know Truth and be able to really love others without secret motive of self gain.

Sound Doctrine: Truth based on Love (Jesus)

False Doctrine: Words based on self-love (demons)

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