

Oppose False Doctrines

"Entrusted to You" Series 1 Timothy 1:3-11 January 10, 2021 Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage we are commanded to oppose false doctrines and hold to the sound doctrines of the gospel.

The Text: 1 Timothy 1:3-11

³ As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer ⁴ or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work—which is by faith. ⁵ The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶ Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. ⁷ They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm. ⁸ We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. ⁹ We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰ for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine ¹¹ that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

- 1) Overall Message: Avoid false doctrines and hold to "sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel."
- 2) This passage teaches us several important truths upon which we should reflect and respond:
 - a) Pastor-elders should minister with spiritual authority in their care for souls (v. 3).
 - b) One of the primary ways a local church expresses the love of God is by opposing false doctrines and teaching sound doctrine (vv. 3b-5).
 - A pure heart that we would desire the right things by God's redeeming & cleansing work in us.
 - A good conscience that we would <u>distinguish</u> between right and wrong by God's divine grace.
 - A sincere faith that we would be devoted to Christ in personal and genuine ways.
 - o Truth can be <u>Denied</u> (rejected), <u>Distorted</u> (twisted/misrepresented), or <u>Diluted</u> (reduced in strength/force).
 - c) Every local church and individual Christian should commit to be "conformed to the gospel" (vv. 6-11).
 - The Bible is full of laws (<u>commands</u>) that give <u>direct instruction</u> "Do" this (or not this).
 - The Bible is also full of doctrines (concepts) that give indirect instruction "Believe" this.

Response

Brothers and Sisters, let us conform to the gospel concerning the glory of our blessed God.

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Timothy 1:3-11 ("Entrusted to You" Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: How can a Christian recognize false doctrine or a false teacher?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Paul urges Timothy to "command" certain members in his congregation (v. 3). What does this teach us about the spiritual authority of the pastors-elders assigned by Christ to shepherd a local church?
- 4) Paul is not only concerned about those who "teach" false doctrine, but also those who "devote themselves" to such things (v. 4). How can we make sure we are devoted to Christ and his truth, and not to other false things?
- 5) What does Paul mean in v. 5 when he explains that "the goal of the command" to lead people away from false doctrine "is love?"
- 6) Based upon v. 5, how does sound doctrine create in the Christian "a pure heart," "a good conscience," and "a sincere faith?"
- 7) Paul acknowledges in v. 6 that some people have left the faith/the church and turned after false doctrine. Have you seen this happen, and what "meaningless" thing did they decide to follow?
- 8) Vv. 7-8 suggest that God's word (law and doctrine) is something that needs to be used "properly." How can a Christian make sure they are using and teaching the Word of God and truth properly?
- 9) V. 11 offers an important summary of this passage. What practices would you suggest to help a Christian "conform to the gospel?"
- 10) In the sermon I said this: "The good news of the gospel is not exhausted by the truth that Jesus forgives our sins and gives us new life. It also points to the splendor and glory of God." How does the end of v. 11 make that clear?

Further study this week: Passages talking about sound doctrine: 2 Peter 1:20-21 (Mon); 1 John 4:1 (Tues); Romans 16:17 (Wed); Jude 1:3 (Thurs); Ephesians 4:14 and Galatians 1:8 (Fri)