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BIBLE HOUSE
OF
GRACE**

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Teach
what Accords with
Sound Doctrine

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Teach what Accords with Sound Doctrine.

The apostle Paul wrote:

- **Titus 2:1:** But as for you (Titus) teach what accords with sound doctrine.

This verse raises the following five questions:

1. What does Paul mean by sound doctrine?
2. Does it mean we must separate from all believers who do not believe every detail of the Bible in the same way that we do?
3. Does it mean we have to be walking Bible encyclopaedia's before we can teach sound doctrine?
4. Should we cast out of our midst those whose hold to certain teachings, we do not agree with.
5. Does it mean we must know the Bible from Genesis to Revelation before we can teach sound doctrine.

Paul's letter to the brothers and sisters in Rome helps us find the answers to these five questions, he wrote:

- **Romans 16:17:** I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

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The three major doctrines Paul had in mind and taught throughout the book of Romans for brothers and sisters in Christ to avoid were:

1. Doctrines that led people away from the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Doctrines that taught that Israel and Gentiles in Christ are two separate nations.
3. Doctrines that led to ungodly behaviour.

These are the three major doctrines throughout Paul's letter to the Romans that he warned the brothers and sisters in the city of Rome to avoid. Based on what Paul considered in his letter to the Romans the three major doctrines that are contrary to 'Sound Doctrine' is:

1. Doctrines that lead people away from Christ.
2. Doctrines that do not teach that Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same manner (i.e., through faith in Christ), and become one nation in Christ.
3. Doctrines that lead people to ungodly behaviour.

Certainly, all other doctrines are important, and all Christians should continue to study and learn, but according to Paul it is only those who are teaching the doctrines listed above that we should separate from. In regards to all other teachings that brothers and sisters in Christ differ on, Paul's ideal was that they would remain together in the faith and the love of Christ, and reason with each other in a spirit of peace and grace. Remember the early church was called to humbly submit to each other

and grow in love, unity and show each other grace, considering, they would have had in their midst converted Jews who had been steeped in Moses Law, and Jewish customs and traditions for about 4000 years, and converted Gentiles who had been steeped in pagan faiths and other gods from the time they had been born. The differences amongst the congregations of the early church would have been astounding, had they divided over every difference there would be no hope of Jews and Gentiles ever growing together in Christ.

It is most certain that the early church in their new found faith had much excitement discovering together the glorious truths of the Bible, and that it was their common faith and love for Christ that held them together. Meetings of spiritual discovery can be enormously exciting and rewarding when brothers and sisters with various levels of understanding come together to learn from each other, and pride, ego, dogma, and legalism are left outside the door.

Paul's ideal for the early church was to reason together in love, understanding and grace (i.e., in the fruits of the Spirit), and discover the wonder of the Bible, and its prophecies, and the eternal beauty of its promises and doctrines, but should any brother or sister be teaching any doctrine that leads away from the Lord Jesus Christ, or teaches contrary to the truth that Jews and Gentiles are one in Christ, and saved in the same manner, or teaches doctrines that lead a brother or sister toward ungodly and corrupt behaviour they should be avoided.

OVERVIEW OF SOUND DOCTRINE: based on Paul's teachings, sound doctrine is:

- All doctrines that lead a person to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Doctrines that teach Jews and Gentiles are saved through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Redeemed Jews and Gentiles form one nation in Christ.
- Teachings that lead to good-character, love, compassion, a pure heart, a good conscience, a sincere faith, self-control, and living a life that honours God and brings a good testimony to the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian faith.

Other than doctrines that led people to God, and to the Lord Jesus Christ the next doctrine that is given the highest priority throughout the New Testament (the entire Bible really), is teachings on behaviour that instruct brothers and sisters in Christ on how to treat others and do what is good and right. This should not surprise us since Jesus summed all the commandments in the entire Bible up in the following two commandments:

1. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. (Matt 22:37).
2. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. (Matt 22:38-39).

The command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," means, treat people with decency and respect, and do not deliberately do harm to others. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself. The thing God hates the most is when we do harm to another person:

- Physically.
- Financially.
- Sexually.
- Verbally.
- Mentally.
- Emotionally.
- Spiritually.

And the thing God loves the most is when we do good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land. These two commandments, and the truth that Jews and Gentiles are now saved by faith in Christ, and God's grace, and teachings that lead to the Lord Jesus Christ, and to godly behaviour are what God, and the Lord Jesus Christ considers the most important of all doctrines, and what Paul calls sound doctrine.

SNAPSHOT: if a brother or sister (especially those in leadership) live a life contrary to:

- The law of love.
- The nature of God.
- The character of Christ.

How can they possibly instruct and correct others in the ways of the Lord, whoever confesses to believe in Christ and lives a life of hypocrisy pretence, greed and selfish-ambition is going to turn those who are outside of God's Kingdom away from the Lord, not toward him, and since God desires that all should be saved, this is grossly offensive to Him.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.