

## Doctrine: Living out Theology

### Matthew 28:19-20; John 15

#### What is Doctrine?

Matthew 28:19-20 (CSB): <sup>19</sup>Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- διδάσκοντες – teaching/doctrine

Titus 1:9 (CSB): *holding to the faithful message as taught, so that he will be able both to encourage with sound teaching and to refute those who contradict it.*

- διδασκαλία - doctrine/teaching

2 Timothy 4:3 (CSB): *For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, will multiply teachers for themselves because they have an itch to hear what they want to hear.*

- διδασκαλίας – doctrine/teaching

Doctrine = teachings.

#### What makes Doctrine Sound or Bad?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (CSB): <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

- διδασκαλίαν – teaching/doctrine

God's Word is the foundation for doctrine. God's Word determines what is "sound" doctrine/teaching and what is "bad/false" doctrine/teaching. We see this with the connection between "all Scripture" and "profitable for teaching".

John 17:17 (CSB): *Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.*

1 Thessalonians 5:21 (CSB): *but test all things. Hold on to what is good.*



1 Timothy 6:3-6 (CSB): *<sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches false doctrine and does not agree with the sound teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the teaching that promotes godliness, <sup>4</sup> he is conceited and understands nothing, but has an unhealthy interest in disputes and arguments over words. From these come envy, quarreling, slander, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup> and constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain. <sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out.*

Sound doctrine makes Christ the central point. Bad doctrine makes "us" the central point.

We read in verses 3 & 6 that sound doctrine promotes godliness with contentment.

We read in verses 4-5 that bad doctrine produces:

- Conceit - Lack of understanding - Unhealthy interest in disputes - Arguments over words

The results of conceit, lack of understanding, unhealthy interest in disputes and arguments over words are:

- Envy – Quarrels – Slander - Evil suspicions - Constant disagreements

Bad doctrine doesn't unify. It divides.

- Deprived of the truth - Godliness is a means to an end

Bad doctrine destroys. It destroys the individuals, families, friendships, communities and most of all churches.

### Why does Sound Doctrine matter?

Sound doctrine builds. Sound doctrine edifies. Good teaching is what the church needs to thrive. Good teaching is what individuals, families, friendships, etc. need to thrive.

James 4:17 (CSB): *So it is sin to know the good and yet not do it.*

John 15:9-17 (CSB): *<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> "I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> "This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn't know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. <sup>17</sup> "This is what I command you: Love one another.*