

## Well Done Good and Faithful Church – Beware False Teachers

February 6, 2022

1 Tim. 4: 1-5

The Gospel we preach is a singular Gospel based upon: The Holiness of God; The Unholiness of Man; On the Redemptive Work of Jesus – a mediator between man and God to pay for our sins; A faithful Savior to reconcile and justify man to God. Read: Eph. 2:8-9; Tit. 3:5; Rom. 10:9-10; Rom. 3:23-24; Rom. 6:23. The enemy of the church is Satan. This truth points us back to the holders and foundation of the truth in 1 Tim. 3:15 and the Gospel message of 1 Tim. 3:16.

The Ephesian church had false teachers among the elders (Acts 20:28-32; 1 Tim. 1:3-7).

**Four Groups of People in the Churches:** 1) True believers standing for truth 2) Rebellious false teachers who are unregenerate 3) Church members following false teachers showing they were false converts 4) True believers being tossed around by false doctrine – leaders needed as promised in Eph. 4: 11-14.

**5 Reasons to Understand the Gospel:** 1 Tim. 4:1:

- 1) **Holy Spirit warning of false teachers:** “latter times,” 2 Tim. 3:1, time extending from Jesus until His return, last era or epoch. “Some will,” those who depart from the faith, activated, initiated from within themselves; 1 Jn. 2:19. “Expressly,” or “explicitly,” says false teaching will happen. Where does it say this? Possible from: When he was a child: 2 Tim. 3:15; from Daniel 7:25; Jesus’ words: Matt. 24:4-5; from the apostles: antichrists and scoffers would come: 2 Thess. 2:3; 2 Pet. 3:3; 1 Jn. 2:18; Jude 18. Likely from Paul. He predicted it by the Holy Spirit in Acts 20:29. Battle for the minds of people, 2 Cor. 4:4.
- 2) **Demons Influence of False Teachers:** V1-2 teaching doctrine is their content through deception and human agents. 2 Cor. 11:3, deception to be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. Avoid the snare of the devil, 2 Tim. 2:26. Any Gospel other than the Gospel that we are reconciled by: Scripture alone, Christ alone, grace alone, faith alone, and for the glory to God alone is originated from demonic influence. We are firmly planted by prayer, holiness, and truth.
- 3) **The Real Loyalty of False Teachers:** 3 Qualities of False Teaching: 1) They know right and do wrong – called hypocrites, suppressing the truth, Rom. 1:18. They have enough general revelation to see God’s creation. 2) Liars: speaking false words, a knowing deception twisting the truth using the Bible. 3) Seared conscience: 2 Possibilities here: a) figuratively: their conscience is burned or seared and doesn’t work anymore. b) non-figurative sense: it means to be branded or owned, fitting the description of hypocrite. They are not logical in their thoughts. There are warnings in 2 Thess. 2: 9-11; 2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Pet. 2:18; 2 Pet. 3:17; 1 John. 4:6; 2 Cor. 11:13.
- 4) **Man- Made Standards of False Teachers:** V3, forbidding marriage, abstaining from foods, not having children. Lots of false teaching in the Ephesian church and culture. Asceticism: avoiding the physical things because they are bad and only spiritual things are good. Creating a new law with parts from different philosophies. Tit. 1:15, to the pure all things are pure, the law of Christ brings liberty.

**Insincerity of false teachers:** 1) Didn’t exclude **strong drink**, 1 Tim. 3:3, 8. 2) **Money**, 1 Tim. 6:5, Tit. 1:11, 1 Tim. 3:3. They should be generous, 1 Tim. 6:17-19. 3) **Women**: taking advantage of women, 2 Tim. 3:6. Leaders must be a one-woman man, 1 Tim. 3:2.

**False teachers always have a selfish and false motive behind their teachings.**

5) **Deceptions of False Teachers:** V4, specific response to dietary restrictions. Mk. 7:19  
a) God's intention for His creation to be enjoyed- all that God created is good. b) Believer's prayer for thanksgiving. All things are good, v3 "foods God created to be received," v4 "every creature of God is good," v5 "made holy the word by God." Triple dose of believer's prayer of thanksgiving, v3 "received", v4 "received", & 5 "made holy by prayer."

## Further Discussion and Application

The believer in Christ should be on guard for false teachers. What are some characteristics of false teachers?

This is a sobering message that encourages us to know truth and be sanctified by truth. How do take care to fulfill Col. 1:28 in our lives?

What are the promises that Paul gives us about the work and grace of Jesus in:

1 Tim. 1:15?

1 Tim. 1:16?

1 Tim. 2:5?

1 Tim. 2:6?

1 Tim. 3:13?

1 Tim. 3:16?

1 Tim. 4:6?

1 Tim. 4:10?

1 Tim. 6:3?

1 Tim. 6:13-16?

What is the warning and hope from John in 2 John 9-11 and 3 John 4? What confidences can we have in Christ that we should obey His words and His alone?

False teachers might start out sounding righteous and lofty but what warnings do we receive from Paul to Timothy in 1 Tim. 1:3-7?

Paul charged that no other doctrine be taught than the faith that Timothy had received from him. The aim of the commandment being love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and a sincere faith. How does a believer lead a life of repentance, evaluating their heart and conscience so they have a sincere faith in Christ? Why is repentance and confession necessary to keep oneself unspotted and living godly?