

DECEPTION AND HERESY

History, Identification and Defeat
Scriptural Text

FIRST CORINTHIANS

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. (1:10)

There is quarreling among you, my brothers. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? (1:11-13)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise?

Where is the scribe?

Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and

Greeks seek wisdom,

but we preach Christ crucified,

a stumbling block to Jews and

folly to Gentiles,

but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1:17-23)

When I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with **lofty speech** or **wisdom**. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (2:1,2)

- One Faith
 - Doctrine Unity
 - No divisions
 - Same mind
-
- Quarreling
 - Divisions
 - "I follow..."
 - Christ divided
-

CORRECT

ERROR:

- Lofty Speech
- Man's Wisdom
- "plausible" or "persuasive" words from **peithos** also meaning "enticing, skillful"

My speech and my message were not in **plausible words of wisdom**, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the **wisdom of men** but in the power of God. (2:4-5)

You are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? (3:3-4)

I laid **a foundation**, and someone else is **building upon it**. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For **no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ**. Now **if anyone builds on the foundation** with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. (3:11-13)

Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. (3:18-19)

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (4:6-7)

Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! (4:8)

For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me. That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, **to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church**. Some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power. For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. (4:15-20)

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and **maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you**. (11:1-2)

If anyone is inclined to be contentious, **we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God**. (11:16)

- "I follow..."
- Merely human

- 1 foundation
- Only Jesus
- Quality of building: good or worthless

- Do not go beyond what is "written" (*gegriptai* referring to Scripture, or the received apostolic Truth.)
- What you teach should be what you received!
- Should NOT be something different.

- "As I teach them everywhere in every church."

- "Maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you."

- "We have no other practice, nor do the churches of God."

When you come together as a church, I hear that **there are divisions** (*schisma* = “a split, division”) **among you**. And I believe it in part, for **there must be factions** (*haireisis* = “choice, opinion”) **among you in order that those who are genuine** (*dokimos* = “tested, approved”) **among you may be recognized**. (11:18-19)

If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized. (14:37-38)

Now I would **remind** you, brothers, **of the gospel I preached to you**, which **you received**, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received**: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures... (15:1-3)

Whether then it was I or they, so **we preach** and so **you believed**. (15:11)

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. (15:11-19)

Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame!

But someone will ask,

“How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

You foolish person!

What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

(15:34-38)

- Divisions reveal who made the right choice... the genuine, tested and approved.
- A true leaders acknowledge NT letters as Scripture
- The true gospel preached is the gospel that was received.
- We preach; you believe.

Example of FALSE DOCTRINE

- Not what was received.
- Inconsistent
- System collapses
- Not historical
- Illogical, vain, lie, powerless

Questions and Speculation to avoid embracing “Knowledge of God”

- Silly questions to avoid TRUTH
- Nature teaches
- Or, God knows, not us.
- Believe what was Received!

SECOND CORINTHIANS

For we are not, like so many, **peddlers of God's word**, but as **men of sincerity**, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ. (2:17)

But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because **only through Christ is it taken away**. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But **when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed**. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (3:14-16)

We have renounced **disgraceful** (*aischune* = "shame"), **underhanded** (*kruptos* = "hidden", "secret") ways. We refuse to practice **cunning** (*panourgia* = "cleverness, craftiness") or to **tamper** (*doloo* = "to ensnare, to corrupt") with God's word, but by the **open statement** (*phanerosis* = "manifestation", "disclosure") of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. (4:2, 3)

For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

For **if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.** (11:2-4)

Did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because **I preached God's gospel to you free of charge?** (11:7)

What I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in **their boasted mission** they work on the **same terms as we do**. For such men are **false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ**. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if **his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness**. Their end will correspond to their deeds. (11:12-15)

- Peddlers or Sincere
- Veil over OT removed in Christ.

Not presenting Word:

- Shameful
- Secret, hidden
- Clever, crafty
- Tamper, corrupt

CORRECT:

- "Open Statement" of Word of Truth,
- "Manifestation" of the Word of Truth

CHRISTIANS

OFFERED:

- Different Jesus
- Different Spirit
- Different Gospel

And, yet they "put up with it", or are "honorable in patience" or "nobly hold up"! NO!!!

Minister different, yet claim to be the same:

- Claim to be same
- False
- Deceitful
- Disguised
- Satan's Servants

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith.

Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! (11:5)

GALATIANS

I am astonished that **you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel**— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, **let him be accursed.** As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to **the one you received**, let him be accursed. (1:6-9)

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. (1:10)

Galatians 2:1-21 –

The rise of False Doctrine among the Apostles themselves!

O **foolish Galatians!** Who has **bewitched you?** It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this:

Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish?

Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? (3:1-6)

Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “***The righteous shall live by faith.***” (3:11)

This is what I mean: **the law**, which came 430 years afterward, **does not annul a covenant** previously ratified by God, so as **to make the promise void.** (3:17)

How can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

- Examine and Test yourself. What do you believe?

Christian believers are:

- Deserting the message of grace
- Turning to a new message

ACCURSED is from

ἀνάθεμα

ANATHEMA =

“votive offering”,
“devoted to God for eternal damnation”

False Teachers are:

- Distorting Gospel
 - Trouble believers
- THE ONE
MESSAGE,
THE ONE YOU
RECEIVED!

The Gospel almost became works based, legalistic.

False Teach/Legalism
CONTRADICTIONS:

- Contradicts original message
 - Contradicts the system
 - Contradicts biblical history
- It is foolish, illogical!

You observe days and months and seasons and years! I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. (4:9-11)

They make much of you, but for no good purpose.

They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. (4:17)

For freedom Christ has set us free; **stand firm therefore**, and **do not submit again to a yoke of slavery**.

Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

This persuasion (*peismone* = “persuasion”, “conviction”) **is not from him who calls you**.

A little leaven leavens the whole lump. (5:1-9)

EPHESIANS

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, **eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace**. There is **one body and one Spirit**—just as you were called to the **one hope** that belongs to your call—**one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all**, who is **over all and through all and in all**. (4:1-6)

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to **equip the saints** for the **work of ministry**, for **building up the body of Christ**, **until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**, so that **we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes**. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together

False Doctrine

- Keeping rules and observing holy days
- Converts are “celebrated” so these converts can CELEBRATE the false teachers
- Stand firm against it.
- False doctrine is NOT obedience to the Truth
- False doctrine gives a false, fake “conviction”
- A little “false teaching” will spread like leaven in all your doctrine.

There is UNITY in the TRUTH.

- “once for all entrusted to the saints” (Jude 3)
- “one faith”
- “the faith”
- No divisions
- Same mind
- “of, over, through, in” ALL

The Work of the Ministries in the Church are to build up the body of Christ “UNTIL WE ALL ATTAIN TO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH and KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD!”

by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (4:11-16)

PHILIPPIANS

Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh. (3:2-3)

COLOSSIANS

For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is **Christ**, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.** (2:1-4)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. (2:6-7)

See to it that no one takes you captive by **philosophy** and empty **deceit**, according to **human tradition**, according to the **elemental spirits** of the world, and not according to **Christ**. For in him the whole **fullness of deity dwells bodily**, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ... (2:8-11)

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of **food** and **drink**, or with regard to a **festival** or a **new moon** or a **Sabbath**. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one disqualify you, insisting on **asceticism** and **worship of angels**, going on in detail about **visions**, puffed up without reason by his **sensuous mind**, and *not holding fast to the Head* (2:16-19)

- Circumcision, evildoers

CHRIST:

- Riches of full assurance
- Understanding
- Knowledge of God's Mystery
- The hidden treasures of:
 - Wisdom
 - Knowledge

Know Christ so no one deceives you!

As you received Him, continue in Him!

Captive:

- Philosophy
- Deceit
- Tradition
- Spirits

Christ - Fullness of deity dwells bodily

Judge (Disqualify):

- Food, drink
- Festival
- Days
- Asceticism
- Angel Worship
- Visions
- (not holding to Christ)

“Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” (2:21)

These have indeed an **appearance of wisdom** in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. (2:23)

FIRST THESSALONIANS

For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. Nor did we seek glory from people. (2:5-6)

SECOND THESSALONIANS

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a **spirit** or a **spoken word**, or a **letter** seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. **Do you not remember** that when I was still with you **I told you these things**?

The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because **they refused to love the truth** and so **be saved**. Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (2:9-12)

Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with **the tradition that you received from us**. (3:6)

Deception, Heresy:

- Appear Wise
- Self-made religion
- Asceticism
- Severe to Body
- “DO NOT” taste, touch, handle.
- ...these have no value, power.

Truth, Doctrine:

- No flattery
- No pretext
- No greed
- Not seek glory from people

New, Updated

Doctrine=DECEPTION

- A spirit
- A prophecy
- A sermon
- A letter

NO!

- Remember!
- I told you this!

Coming Deception to those who refused the Truth and Salvation, but had pleasure in unrighteousness:

- All power
- False signs
- Wonders
- Wicked deception
- Strong delusion
- False

The Tradition You Received from us

FIRST TIMOTHY

As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any **different doctrine** (*heterodidaskalein* = “to teach other doctrine”), nor to devote themselves to **myths** (*muthos* = “story, fable”) and **endless genealogies**, which promote **speculations** (*zetesis* = “a search, questioning”) rather than the **stewardship** (*oikonomia* = “administration”, referring to “management of household affairs”) from God that is by faith. (1:3-4)

Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions. (1:6-7)

whatever else is contrary to **sound** (*hugiaino* = “healthy”, “to be sound”) **doctrine** in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which **I have been entrusted**. (1:10-11)...(listed in 1:9-10)

- ungodly
- sinners
- the unholy
- profane
- those who strike their fathers and mothers
- murderers
- sexually immoral
- men who practice homosexuality
- enslavers (*andrapodistes* = “kidnapper who enslaves + sells people”)
- liars
- perjurers (1:9-10)

You may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme. (1:18-20)

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times **some will depart from the faith** by devoting themselves to **deceitful spirits** and **teachings of demons**, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who **forbid marriage** and require **abstinence from foods** that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected (4:1-4)

Do Not Teach:

- Different Doctrine
- Myths
- “Genealogies”
- Speculations

DO TEACH the Stewardship from God, or “administration of household affairs” that is by faith.

Deceived Teachers:

- Swerve from...
- Wander away...
- Teach without understanding

**Sound doctrine
refuses
Sinful lifestyle**

Two False Teachers
shipwrecked their faith
with deceptive ideas

Coming Deceptions:

- Fake teachers are
 - insincere
 - liars
- Replace THE FAITH
 - w/ deceitful spirits,
 - teaching of demon
- Practices:
 - Forbid marriage
 - Abstain from foods

If you **put these things before the brothers**, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, **being trained** (*entrepho* = “nourish”, “educated in”, “continuous instruction”) **in the words of the faith** and **of the good doctrine** that you have followed. **Have nothing to do** (*paraiteomai* = “beg off”, “condemn”, “refuse”, “reject”, “avoid”, “decline”) **with irreverent, silly myths**. Rather **train yourself for godliness**; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. (4:6-8)

Keep a close watch on yourself and **on the teaching**. **Persist in this**, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers. (4:16)

If anyone teaches a **different doctrine** and **does not agree with the sound words** of our Lord Jesus Christ and **the teaching that accords with godliness**, he is **puffed up with conceit** and **understands nothing**. He has an **unhealthy craving for controversy** and for **quarrels about words**, which produce **envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction** among people who are **depraved in mind** and **deprived of the truth**, **imagining that godliness is a means of gain**. (6:3-5)

O Timothy, **guard the deposit entrusted to you**. **Avoid** the **irreverent babble** and **contradictions** of what is **falsely called “knowledge,”** for by **professing it** some have **swerved from the faith**. (6:20-21)

The Good Servant:

- Put good doctrine before brothers
- Train in words of
 - THE FAITH
 - Good doctrine
 - Godliness
- Refuse irreverent, silly myths

The Good Teacher:

- Watch yourself
- Watch Teaching
- Persist in Teaching

Different Doctrine, Not Sound Doctrine False Teacher:

- Puffed w/ Conceit
- Understand zero
- Crave controversy
- Craves quarrels about words
- Produces:
 - envy
 - dissension
 - slander
 - evil suspicion
 - constant friction
- These people:
 - depraved mind
 - deprived of Truth

- Guard Deposit
- Deposit Entrusted
- Avoid Babble
- Avoid contradictions called “knowledge” which “swerves from THE FAITH

SECOND TIMOTHY

Follow the pattern of the **sound words** that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, **guard the good deposit entrusted to you**. You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes. (1:13-15)

What you have **heard from me** in the presence of many witnesses **entrust to faithful men**, who will be **able to teach others** also. **Share in suffering** as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (2:2-3)

Remind them of these things, and **charge them** before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as **one approved**, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, **rightly handling the word of truth**. But **avoid irreverent babble**, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have swerved from the truth, saying that **the resurrection has already happened**. They are upsetting the faith of some. (2:14-18)

Have nothing to do with **foolish, ignorant controversies**; you know that they breed quarrels. And the **Lord's servant** must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, **able to teach**, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. (2:23-26)

THE FAITH:

- Pattern
- Sound Words
- Heard from Paul
- Guard it
- Good Deposit
- Entrusted to you

LOSERS:

Churches of Asia (in 67 AD) had turned away from "THE FAITH" including:

- Phygelus
- Hermogenes

Find Teachers:

- Faithful men
- Men able to teach
- Share in suffering
- Entrust them with what you HEARD

- Remind them
- Charge them not to quarrel about words
- Be one approved
- An unashamed worker
- Correctly handling WORD of TRUTH
- Avoid Babble

LOSERS - Quarrel about words, ruin hearers, more ungodliness, spread as gangrene, swerve from Truth, upset people's faith, **-Resurrection is now**
- Hymenaeus
- Philetus

Understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will...having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. **Avoid such people**. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, **always learning** and **never** able to arrive at a **knowledge of the truth**. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men. You, however, have **followed my teaching**, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings...Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived...All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (3:1-17)

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: **preach the word**; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For **the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching**, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (4:1-5)

TITUS

This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might **put what remained into order**, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you (1:5)

He **must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught**, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. (1:9-11)

- Will not endure sound teaching
- Find teachers they agree with
- Turn away from THE TRUTH
- Wander into myths

APPOINT ELDERS:

- Set in order and
- appoint elders who
 - hold to the WORD
 - able to give instruction in SOUND DOCTRINE

SILENCE HERETICS:

- Insubordinate,
- empty talkers,
- deceivers,
- circumcision sect,
- teaching for profit,
- upsetting churches

Therefore **rebuke them sharply**, that they may be sound in the faith, not devoting themselves to **Jewish myths** and the **commands of people who turn away from the truth**.

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

They **profess** to know God, **but they deny him by their works**.

They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

But as for you, **teach** what accords with **sound doctrine**. (1:13-16; 2:1)

But **avoid** foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. (3:9-11)

PHILEMON

HEBREWS

Do not be led away by **diverse and strange teachings**, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by **foods**, which have not benefited those devoted to them. (13:9)

JAMES

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FIRST PETER

-

SECOND PETER

Therefore I intend always to **remind you** of these qualities, though you know them and **are established in the truth** that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder (1:12-13)

And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. (1:15)

Rebuke Sharply:

- Jewish myths
- Commands turning away from THE TRUTH
- Profess God, but their works deny him
- Foolish controversies
- Genealogies
- Dissensions
- Quarrels about Law

Embrace:

- Sound in THE FAITH
- Teach Sound Doctrine
- Warn and Avoid people stirring doctrinal division

Diverse and Strange teachings:

- Foods

The Truth

- Remind you
- Established in
- Way of reminder
- Any time
- Recall the Truth

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty... And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (1:16-21)

False prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the **way of truth** will be blasphemed. And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. (2:1-3)

They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you. They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness. These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved. For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after

NOT:

- Not cleverly devised myths
- Not someone's own interpretation

Pay attention to

the prophetic word of Scripture spoken from God that more fully confirms the Lord Jesus than being an eyewitness on the Mount of Transfiguration.

There will be false teachers among you

- Destructive heresy
- Deny Jesus
- Sensuality
- Blaspheme the way of The Truth
- Greed
- Exploit believers with false words

Corruption of False Teachers

washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire.” This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by **way of reminder**, that you should **remember** the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. (2:13-22; 3:1-6)

Just as our beloved brother **Paul also wrote** to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the **ignorant** and **unstable twist to their own destruction**, as they do the other Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But **grow** in the **grace** and **knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (3:15-18)

Remember:

- the teaching,
- the prophets,
- the commands of Jesus
- the Apostles.

False Doctrine:

- Scoffers in last days
- Follow sinful desire
- Where is the Coming of Jesus?
- All things continue forever since the beginning.
- Deliberately overlook the facts:
 - Creation
 - Flood of Noah
- People perished

Scripture

False Teachers:

- Ignorant
- Unstable
- Twist Scripture NT+OT
- Destruction

Believers:

- Not carried away with error of lawless
- Do not lose stability
- Grow in Grace
- Grow in knowledge of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

FIRST JOHN

Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that **antichrist is coming**, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and **you all have knowledge**.

I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?

This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

No one who denies the Son has the Father.

Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

Let **what you heard from the beginning abide in you**.

If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. (2:18-24)

I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you.

But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and **you have no need that anyone should teach you**. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him. (2:26-27)

Little children, let no one deceive you.

Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil,

for the devil has been sinning from the beginning.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. (3:7-8)

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits** to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

By this you know the Spirit of God:

every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.

This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. (4:1-3)

They are from the world;

therefore **they speak from the world**, and the **world listens to them**.

We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us;

whoever is not from God does not listen to us.

By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. (4:5-6)

The TRUTH

- TRUTH is known by believers
- Believers have had the TRUTH since they believed
- Believers who believe the TRUTH have no need of anyone to teach them “truth”

Teachers should be tested against the TRUTH.

If a teacher (spirit) contradicts The TRUTH they are:

- False
- Liar
- Antichrist Spirit
- From World
- Followed by World

SECOND JOHN

I rejoiced greatly to find some of your **children walking in the truth**, just as we were **commanded by the Father**. (4)

And now I ask you, dear lady—**not as though I were writing you a new commandment**, but the **one we have had from the beginning**—that we love one another. (5)

And **this is love**, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have **heard from the beginning**, so that you should walk in it.

For many **deceivers** have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is **the deceiver** and **the antichrist**. (6-7)

Everyone who **goes on ahead** and **does not abide in the teaching of Christ**, does not have God.

Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and **does not bring this teaching, do not receive him** into your house or give him any greeting, for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works. (9-11)

THIRD JOHN

For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and **testified to your truth**, as indeed you are walking **in the truth**. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking **in the truth**. (3-4)

I have written something to the church, but Diotrephes, who **likes to put himself first, does not acknowledge our authority.** So if I come, I will bring up what he is doing, talking wicked nonsense against us. And not content with that, he refuses to welcome the brothers, and also stops those who want to and puts them out of the church. (9-10)

TRUTH:

- Command of Father
- Not something new
- Had TRUTH from beginning
- Love is walking in commandment we had in the beginning: The Truth
- Has Father and Son

DECEIVER:

- Goes ahead without TRUTH
- Does Not Abide in Truth (teaching of Christ)
- Does not have God
- Do not receive or greet anyone who brings another teaching.

TRUTH (THE FAITH):

- Testified you have TRUTH.
- You walk in TRUTH
- No greater joy to see you in TRUTH

DECEIVER:

- Diotrephes
- Puts himself first
- Rejects Apostles
- Wicked nonsense
- Refuses brothers
- Took over church

JUDE

I found it necessary to write appealing to you to **contend for the faith** that was **once for all delivered to the saints**. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. (3-4)

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. (8)

These people blaspheme all that they do not understand. (10)

These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever. (12-13)

These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage. (16)

They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. (18-19)

CONTEND FOR THE FAITH!

(THE TRUTH)

- Delivered ONCE
- Delivered to Saints

DECEIVERS:

- Crept in
- Unnoticed
- Pervert Grace to sensuality
- Deny Jesus as Master, Lord, and Christ
- Use dreams
- Defile flesh
- Reject Apostle's authority
- Blaspheme Truth
- Hidden reefs
- Church meals
- Leaders who only care for self
- No production
- Driven by culture
- Fruitless
- Twice dead
- Uprooted (already damned)
- Wild waves of Sea (culture)
- Casting up shame
- Wandering stars useless to guide
- Grumblers
- Led by Sin
- Boasters (self-promotion)
- Favoritism to manipulate others
- CAUSE DIVISION (choices, heresy)

REVELATION

'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false.' (2:2)

Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. (2:6)

...church in Smyrna...'I know...the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.' (2:8-9)

...church in Pergamum...'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is...in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. (2:13)

But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. (2:14-15)

...church in Thyatira... But I have this against you, that **you tolerate that woman Jezebel**, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works. But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what some call the deep things of Satan, to you I say, **I do not lay on you any other burden**. Only **hold fast what you have until I come**. (2:20-25)

...church in Sardis...Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. **Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it**, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. (3:2-3)

...church in Philadelphia... yet you have kept my word and have **not denied my name**. Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come

Tested and found false.

Hate Nicolaitans

Synagogue of Satan

Satan's Throne
Satan dwells

Teaching of Balaam

Teaching of Nicolaitans

Food to idols

Sexual immorality

Woman Jezebel

TRUTH:

- Reject false teaching
- Not learned "deep things"
- There is "NO NEW BURDEN" (no new "truth")
- Hold fast what you now have!
- Remember what
 - received
 - heard
- Keep it!
- Have not denied Name

and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. (8-9)

I am coming soon. **Hold fast what you have**, so that no one may seize your crown. (3:11)

...church in Laodicea...For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on **those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus**. And he stood on the sand of the sea. (12:17)

It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. (13:13-15)

So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more... for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery. And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth.” (18:21, 23)

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants. (19:1-2)

I warn everyone who **hears the words of the prophecy of this book**: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. (22:18-19)

- Hold fast what you have!

Dragon:

- wars against those who keep commands (TRUTH) and testify of Jesus
- performs great signs (fire falls)
- Deceives earth dwellers
- Gives breath (life) to image
- Nations are deceived by sorcery
- Great prostitute (false religion) corrupted earth

Do not ADD to the TRUTH!

Do not TAKE from the TRUTH!