

Without **“sound doctrine”**... WE WILL FAIL!

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

“Sound Doctrine” A Requirement of Leadership

*“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.
(10) For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
(11) Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.”*
(Titus 1:9-11)

“Sound doctrine” enables those who embrace it to exhort and convince those who hold to unsound or false doctrines. There were in Titus' day, and there are today, MANY who teach partial truths and deceive many.

Paul is not weak in his admonition to Titus. Paul tells Titus that the false teachers (in this case they teach for “filthy lucre”) mouths **MUST BE STOPPED!**

Godly leadership **CANNOT** be weak with regards to false doctrines. They are

dangerous to the saints, and will be used by the enemy to deceive people!

“Sound Doctrine” Conclusion

“Sound doctrine” is more than NOT being “dirty words”, but is **CRITICALLY IMPORTANT** for God's people! It is NOT optional for Christians to pursue solid Scriptural understandings.

No one is perfect, and we will all get it wrong sometimes, but this is not a valid excuse to ignore good teaching. Study God's Word diligently!

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

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“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine.” (Titus 2:1)

Merely whispering the words **“sound doctrine”** in some Christian circles, can bring on all kinds of negative thoughts and feelings. This should not be the case, since the Bible has nothing but positive to say about **“sound doctrine”**. As a matter of fact, the Bible is full of warnings against “false” and “unsound” teachings.

In some cases, the term **“sound doctrine”** causes the hearer to respond in terms like “Judge not!” Is it ever realistic to believe that we should not be judged by the Word of God? Christians believe that the Bible is the ultimate authority for all spiritual truth. If this is so (IT IS), then we should be grateful to God for His Word that corrects us.

Some Christians respond to this phrase as though it is a decree of legalism. As if, an accurate understanding of the Bible is

"SOUND DOCTRINE" ARE NOT DIRTY WORDS

somehow, enslaving. They act as if properly understanding God is a bondage.

"Sound Doctrine" An End Time Indicator

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;" (2 Timothy 4:3)

"Sound doctrine" is the remedy for false doctrines. As Paul writes to Timothy, a time will come when people will not tolerate good teachings. They will gather many teachers unto themselves to say what they want to hear.

This is happening all over the world today. Christians in many aspects of life, gather teachers to say what they like. Rather than deal with the realities of the Scriptures, these teachers placate their audience with nice words that do not cause spiritual growth or call for any changes in life.

Think about it. It is very likely that a number of names come to mind. Are they speaking the truth, or just saying what you want to hear?

"Sound Doctrine" Opposes Evil Deeds

"For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;" (1 Timothy 1:10)

Paul teaches Timothy that **"sound doctrine"** is opposed to evil actions.

Christians or churches who endorse wicked behavior assuredly do not teach or adhere to sound doctrine. Today, many so-called "Christians" are making allowances for vile and sinful conduct.

Perhaps if **"sound doctrine"** had not been frowned upon in these churches, perhaps if they had embraced and pursued godly understanding and wisdom, these sin filled life choices would have never been condoned. **"Sound doctrine"** can keep adherents close to God.

The end result of rejecting **"sound doctrine"** is clearly spelled out by Isaiah...

"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."
(Isaiah 5:20)

"Sound Doctrine" Leads to Right Living

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (16) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."
(2 Timothy 3:15-17)

If you want to be all that God wants you to be, you NEED **"sound doctrine"**!

This passage teaches us that the Bible was given to us by God, He breathed it Himself. He gave us this wonderful gift for good reasons... He greatly desires MATURE believers!

Notice the first thing in the list of "profitable" purposes of the Bible... DOCTRINE!

The end result is the growth and maturing of God's people, and the equipping them to fulfill the good works that He has ordained for us to accomplish.