

THE PURPOSE OF DOCTRINE

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 4:1-5;
2:15-17a,19; 1:13,14; 2:1,2

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2008

FIVE PURPOSES OF BIBLE DOCTRINE

1. To teach us about the NATURE and CHARACTER of God and to define and explain our duties and obligations to Him as well as our duties and obligations to each other.
2. To provide us a fuller UNDERSTANDING of what Christ has done for us and what God has provided for us in Christ.
3. To develop in us a greater APPRECIATION for what Christ has done for us and what God has provided for us in Christ.
4. To keep us from being MISLED and DECEIVED; to PROTECT us from FALSE TEACHING and ERROR.
5. To bring us into a full and BALANCED and FRUITFUL life in Jesus Christ.

RELATED SCRIPTURES

DIDASKALÍA: Instruction, Doctrine, Learning, Teaching

Matthew 15:8,9; Mark 7:6,7; Romans 12:6,7; 15:4; Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 2:22; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; 4:1,6,13,16; 5:17; 6:1,3,4; 2 Timothy 3:10,14-17; 4:3; Titus 1:9; 2:1,2,7-10

DIDACHÉ: Instruction, Doctrine, hath been taught

Matthew 7:28,29; 16:12; 22:33; Mark 1:22,27; 4:2,3; 11:18; 12:38,39; Luke 4:31,32; John 7:16,17; 18:19; Acts 2:42; 5:28; 13:12; 17:19,20; Romans 6:17; 16:17; 1 Corinthians 14:6,26; 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9; Hebrews 6:1-3; 13:9; 2 John 1:9-11; Revelation 2:14-16,24,25

RESPONSIVE READING

2 Timothy 4:1-5; 2:15-17a,19; 1:13,14; 2:1,2

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge:

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction.

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. Their teaching will spread like gangrene.

Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many

witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

SCRIPTURES

DIDASKALÍA

" `These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their **teachings** are but rules taught by men.' " Matthew 15:8,9

He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: " `These people honor me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their **teachings** are but rules taught by men.' Mark 7:6,7

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him **teach** . . . Romans 7:6,7

For everything that was written in the past was written to **teach** us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Romans 15:4

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of **teaching** and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

Ephesians 4:14

These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and **teachings**. Colossians 2:22

We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers--and for whatever else is contrary to the sound **doctrine** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. 1 Timothy 1:8-11

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and **things taught** by demons. 1 Timothy 4:1

If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good **teaching** that you have followed. 1 Timothy 4:6

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to **teaching**. 1 Timothy 4:13

Watch your life and **doctrine** closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and **teaching**. 1 Timothy 5:17

All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our **teaching** may not be slandered. 1 Timothy 6:1

If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly **teaching**, he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions . . . 1 Timothy 6:3,4

You, however, know all about my **teaching**, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, 2 Timothy 3:10

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:14-17

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound **doctrine**. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

2 Timothy 4:3

He [an overseer] must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound **doctrine** and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:9

You must teach what is in accord with sound **doctrine**. Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance. Titus 2:1,2

In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your **teaching** show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the **teaching** about God our Savior attractive. Titus 2:7-10

DIDACHÉ

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his **teaching**, because he taught as one

who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. Matthew 7:28,29

Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the **teaching** of the Pharisees and Sadducees. Matthew 16:12

When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his **teaching**. Matthew 22:33

The people were amazed at his **teaching**, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Mark 1:22

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new **teaching**--and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." Mark 1:27

He taught them many things by parables, and in his **teaching** said: "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. Mark 4:2,3

The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his **teaching**. Mark 11:18

As he **taught**, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted in the marketplaces, and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. Mark 12:38,39

Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. They were amazed at his **teaching**, because his message had authority. Luke 4:31,32

Jesus answered, "My **teaching** is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my **teaching** comes from God or whether I speak on my own. John 7:16,17

Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his **teaching**. John 18:19

They devoted themselves to the apostles' **teaching** and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

"We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your **teaching** and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." Acts 5:28

When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the **teaching** about the Lord. Acts 13:12

Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new **teaching** is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we want to know what they mean." Acts 17:19,20

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of **teaching** to which you were entrusted. Romans 6:17

I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the **teaching** you have learned. Keep away from them. Romans 16:17

Now, brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or **word of instruction**? 1 Corinthians 14:6

What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a **word of instruction**, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. 1 Corinthians 14:26

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and **careful instruction**.

2 Timothy 4:2

He [an overseer] must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as **it has been taught**, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:9

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, **instruction** about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so. Hebrews 6:1-3

Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange **teachings**. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value to those who eat them. Hebrews 13:9

Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the **teaching** of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the **teaching** has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this **teaching**, do not take him into your house or welcome him. Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work. 2 John 1:9-11

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you [the church in Pergamum]: You have people there who hold to the **teaching** of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. Likewise you also have those who hold to the **teaching** of the Nicolaitans. Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. Revelation 2:14-16

Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her **teaching** and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): Only hold on to what you have until I come. Revelation 2:24,25

SCRIPTURES ON TRUE VS FALSE DOCTRINE

"Watch out for **false prophets**. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. Matthew 7:15-20

Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one **deceives** you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will **deceive** many.

At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many **false prophets** will appear and **deceive** many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For **false Christs** and **false prophets** will appear and perform great signs and miracles **to deceive** even the elect--if that were possible. See, I have told you ahead of time.

"So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. Matthew 24:4,10-12,23-25,36

Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one **deceives** you. Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will **deceive** many.

At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there he is!' do not believe it. For **false Christs** and **false prophets** will appear and perform signs and miracles **to deceive** the elect--if that were possible. So be on your guard; I have told you everything ahead of time. Mark 13:5,21-23

He replied: "Watch out that you are not **deceived**. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' **Do not follow them**. Luke 21:8

I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are **contrary to the teaching** you have learned. **Keep away from them**. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they **deceive** the minds of naive people. Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. Romans

16:17-19

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a **different gospel**-- which is really **no gospel** at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into **confusion** and are trying to **pervert the gospel** of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach **a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!** As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is **preaching** to you **a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!** Galatians 1:6-9

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one **deceive** you with **empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.** Ephesians 5:3-7

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I tell you this **so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.** Colossians 2:2-4

As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men **not to teach false doctrines** any longer nor to devote themselves to **myths** and endless **genealogies**. These promote **controversies** rather than **God's work**--which is by faith. The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Some have wandered away from these and turned to **meaningless talk**. They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers--and for whatever else **is contrary to the sound doctrine** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. 1 Timothy 1:3-11

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow **deceiving spirits** and **things taught by demons.** 1 Timothy 4:1

If anyone teaches **false doctrines** and **does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching**, he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been **robbed of the truth** and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

1 Timothy 6:3-5

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of **sound teaching**, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. 2 Timothy 1:13,14

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, **deceiving** and **being deceived**. 2 Timothy 3:12,13

He must hold firmly to the **trustworthy message as it has been taught**, so that he can encourage others by **sound doctrine** and **refute those who oppose it**. For there are many rebellious people, **mere talkers** and **deceivers**, especially those of the circumcision group. **They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach**--and that for the sake of dishonest gain. Even one of their own prophets has said, "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." This testimony is true. Therefore, **rebuke them sharply**, so that they will be **sound in the faith** and will **pay no attention** to Jewish myths or to the commands of those who **reject the truth**. Titus 1:9-14

But there were also **false prophets among the people**, just as there will be **false teachers among you**. They will **secretly introduce destructive heresies**, even **denying** the sovereign Lord who bought them--bringing swift destruction on themselves. **Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute**. In their greed these teachers will **exploit you with stories they have made up**. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping. 2 Peter 2:1-3

Dear friends, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God**, because **many false prophets** have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that **acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh** is from God, but every spirit that **does not acknowledge Jesus** is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. 1 John 4:1-3

It has given me great joy to find some of your children **walking in the truth**, just as the Father commanded us

Many **deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh**, have gone out into the world. **Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist**. Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. Anyone who runs ahead and **does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God**; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. **If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him**. **Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work**. 2 John 1:4,7-11