

SOUND DOCTRINE

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

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Topic:

SOUND DOCTRINE

Bible Text: 1 Timothy 1:8-11

Teacher: Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Father of light, we adore You, we come before You Lord to hear Your word, Lord we pray that You shall speak to us in a language we will understand, and help us to live according to Your word, and finally make it to Your Kingdom in Jesus Christ name. Amen

Introduction

Today's topic is one that we need to really take cognisance of because those whose focus is to make heaven must know this and apply everything necessary so that they can make it at last. May we not miss Heaven at last.

Study

1 Timothy 1:8 KJV

But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

In this chapter of the scriptures one would see Paul writing to Timothy his true son in the faith. He told Timothy to remain in Ephesus so as to implore some not to teach another doctrine apart from the one he taught. For there is much tendency for them to depart from what he had taught them. So he was to checkmate their teachings if it agrees with the wholesome words of Truth. During that time many still hold on to the belief that circumcision is necessary for salvation. Some believe that a man cannot be justified without observing the law whereas justification is by Faith in Jesus Christ. Therefore they desired to be teachers of the law and not understanding what they say and the things they affirm for it is far from what God came to do for man.

In contrast, Paul went further stating that it is not that the law is bad, it is good only if it is used lawfully. This means that the purpose of the law must not be misinterpreted. When the law is then used unlawfully what then happens? It certainly becomes bad, not bad in itself or of itself but to the one who misuse it. The Jewish people unlawfully used the law by seeking

justification through it. 1 Timothy 1:9 KJV **Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,** Paul states that the law is not made for a righteous man but for the lawless and disobedient. A righteous man is a man who is in right standing with God, a man who has taken Christ's righteousness upon him; the righteous man is one who does not do anything contrary to the law because he is led by the Spirit of God. The law is meant for the lawless and disobedient in that it makes them realize that some specific things are sinful and there is a punishment for each one of them. It restrains them from their wild lives and points them to the Savior. I would classify a lawless person as a person who do not know Christ at all, such as never had an encounter with Christ at all therefore he is without the law, while the disobedient are those who have known Christ, yet still live in sin thy are ungodly (wicked) and sinners (those who live in perpetual sins have the law to point them to Christ and the Holy Spirit to convict them by pointing them to the law. Those who live holy lives and profane before God, and all the other sins listed, have the law to make them know where they belong and then why they need to come to Christ.

All the things mentioned by Paul as sins are contained in the law, that men must do away with. He concluded his word here in 1 Timothy 1:10-11 KJV **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; [11] According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.** By saying if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine. Therefore the law is meant for all those who practice anything contrary to sound doctrine. And he listed the things contained in the law when followed as things that show sound doctrines.

What does sound doctrine mean?

Doctrine means teaching and sound in this context means uncorrupt, wholesome or safe. Combining both words now we can say sound doctrine means uncorrupt teaching, wholesome teaching, or safe teaching. 1 Timothy 1:11 KJV **According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.** Paul says this is the gospel committed to his trust and we read of him telling Timothy to see that no one teaches anything other than them which means that there is no other true doctrine

than the one committed into his hands for it is the sound doctrine. Paul did not stop there, he went further to make us know that this is the essence of his ministry. 1 Timothy 1:12 KJV **And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;** Paul thanked the Lord who enabled him, that is, by divine strength gave him Grace to be faithful in what he was called to do. 1 Corinthians 7:25 KJV **...yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful.**

Furthermore, he was put into the ministry not one of the ministries having another doctrine apart from the one other Apostles before him had, it was still the same ministry. Those who are truly called by God are called into the same ministry which is in accordance with sound doctrine. Any ministry not in this accord is not up to standard, not glorious, and of no divine approval in fact it is not the Lord who is in charge of such ministry.

Sound Doctrine

One then might begin to ask what is sound doctrine?. Apostle Paul answers this question in chapter 6 of his first letter to Timothy. 1 Timothy 6:3 KJV **If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;** In this verse, Paul talks about teaching. He says if anyone teaches something different from what he has been teaching and does not consent to the wholesome words, that is, sound doctrine and even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, withdraw from such a person. This means every teaching must be accurate with the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, if it is inaccurate then it is not a sound doctrine. Paul then says the doctrine anyone must make must accord to godliness. From this we are able to understand what sound doctrine is to an extent. Sound doctrines make a man live a godly life.

Therefore sound doctrine is any doctrine that agrees with the whole truths contained in the scriptures and does not in any way contradict the words of our Lord Jesus Christ which strictly accords with godliness. Of a truth there are teachings today that do not agree with the truth contained in the scriptures, many cannot even be found at all in the scriptures, many contradict the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. There are many teachings made today which many listen to that are not to be listened to at all for they do not accord with godliness, though they are sweet to the ears but do not transform anyone to live godly lives. Churches who preach sound doctrines are very few in number in this generation, it is because the things of the

world have become the driving force of many ministers. From Paul's words we can see that why God put him in ministry is to preach sound doctrine. Paul made this more clearer when he told Timothy to flee from things that are not in accord with godliness, he says 1 Timothy 6:6 KJV **But godliness with contentment is great gain.** He told him that he should be content in his godly state because those who desire to be rich have their end in destruction and perdition. 1 Timothy 6:9 KJV **But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.**

This means that when you see a man constantly preaching about money and the ephemeral things of this world, you will know that such a man is not preaching sound doctrine and has not been sent by the Lord Jesus Christ because out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. He is only communicating the desires of his heart to people. Paul then tells Timothy "O man of God" he had to use these words to refer to Timothy though he is a son to him in the Lord, but uses it to address him to make his position clear to him and his conduct which must be in line with his position known.

This is also to make all those who say they are men of God see what is expected of them. 1 Timothy 6:11 KJV **But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.** Flee these things, he said flee from the desire to become rich, flee from the love of money, flee from lack of contentment, flee from thinking the message of the cross is a means to amass wealth, flee from all kinds of godless living and if this things be fled from then what should be pursued? Sound doctrines! And what is sound doctrine? Things that accord to our right standing with God, things of eternal values and not merely earthly values. Paul says pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Looking at all these carefully, we will see that there is nothing of earthly value there, they are all after the things of the Spirit and of heavenly values. This points to the fruits expected of a spiritual person to bear and if as men of God we must pursue these things that they might be evident in us and our lives modeled and patterned by them to show that we are approved of God, how then should we teach otherwise? These things are against the works of the flesh that those who live under the law exhibit. Those who are righteous follow this sound doctrine and preach it.

If any man then comes, and says God has entrusted another gospel other than this into his hand, such is a liar and is not recognised by God. In fact

one cannot but wonder why many are already swept away by another gospel and Paul could not but wonder how soon they are carried into believing a false gospel. Galatians 1:6-7 KJV **I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: [7] Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.** When the Gospel of Christ which is in accordance with godliness is perverted then such can be said to be another gospel, although such words as "another gospel" are only used to differentiate them from the true gospel.

No matter the ministry, no matter the calling, they must agree to the wholesome words and maintain the sound doctrine of Christ. Christ does not have many doctrines. His doctrine is ONE and it is the doctrine that accords with living for God with eternity in view. 1 Timothy 6:12 KJV **Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.** The focus of every true Christian fight is to lay hold on eternal life, a faith that is not in this direction is a useless faith. This was what Timothy was called to do in ministry, Paul then told him to guard this for it has been committed to his trust. 1 Timothy 6:20 KJV **O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:** as a man of God are you preaching the sound doctrine that accords to godliness? As a Christian who is a member of the body of Christ, do you listen to messages that are in accordance with godliness?

Paul told Timothy to withdraw from those who do not measure up to the standards accommodated in sound doctrine. 1 Timothy 6:5 KJV **Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: FROM SUCH WITHDRAW THYSELF.** Even those who have a form of godliness but lacking the proof of it in their lifestyles should be avoided for they say and do not. Matthew 23:3 KJV **... for they say, and do not.** They speak as those godly, they associate themselves with godly men but Paul says turn away from them. 2 Timothy 3:5 KJV **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY.** Why is it that all these sets of people with other doctrine are the ones many go after today and will keep defending them? You must realize that any ministry, church, preacher or teacher who does not preach sound doctrine is preparing you for hell fire. It is now your duty to withdraw yourself from such ministry. It is in your care to turn away from Ministers who preach words short of gospel truths if you value your soul. There are some in hell

fire now crying in torments for following false doctrines and they keep saying it is their pastor that let them astray. Well, their pastors are at fault likewise they themselves, in fact, they are the most at fault for sitting under such a minister when they can listen to sound doctrine through several mediums and ultimately sit down to study their bibles by themselves.

The messages that are popular today which are void of soundness are "the mysteries of the kingdom which does not address sin. They are messages that make one hungry and thirsty for power and not hungry and thirsty for righteousness. They are messages one can listen to for years yet one would not be able to point out a few things that have changed in one's life in relation to one's preparation for heaven. When you sit under the teaching of a man of God for 3 months, applying what he is teaching to your life and no one says you have changed or is changing to the point that they start calling you pastor, mummy/daddy G.O, our brother and sister in the Lord or similar names, holy brother/sister. Then you are certainly under a preacher you should turn away from.

One of the true pieces of sound doctrine is an undoubted transformed life. People who know you well before will begin to say that they can see you have become a changed person.

Some Effects Of Sound Doctrine

- It prepares one for heaven.
- It draws one closer to God.
- It transforms one's life for good.
- People testify to the goodness of God in one's life.
- One begins to live in peace with even worst enemies.
- One would always be Heaven conscious.
- One would always try to avoid sin.
- Sound doctrine brings peace.
- It does not encourage and tolerates sin, which then spurs one to live a holy and righteous life.

- It always makes sinners repent of their sins.
- One's focus will be on eternity.
- It increases one's love for Christ.
- It makes one fear the Lord.
- It draws people close to us because they also want to be like us.

Among many others.

Some Facts About Sound Doctrine

1. When preached, it sounds judgmental to those who have itchy ears and do not want to obey God.
2. It is very scarce, especially in this generation.
3. It is not appealing to the flesh.
4. Many shun it and do not want to follow it.
5. Those who preach it and teach it are hated by the world.
6. Those who listen and practice it are called over righteous and "holier-than-thou".
7. It makes you have only a few friends because many would not be able to match up even though they wish to draw close.
8. Many find it offensive including governments and individuals.
9. Sinners will find it hard to live according to its standards.

Dangers Involved In Shunning Sound Doctrines

- It makes people unprepared for eternity.
- It makes living in sin comfortable for people even inside the church.
- It makes us not different from those of the world.

- One's life cannot be transformed.
- One would begin to live a questionable way of life.
- It makes those who would teach and preach it, false ministers.
- Although one would gather a crowd but they would all end up in hell.
- One automatically becomes God's enemy.

From these we have seen that teaching and preaching sound doctrine is very important and should not be in any way neglected or counted as unnecessary because it is on its shoulders that our eternity rests.

May we not fall victims of unsound doctrines in Jesus Christ's name, Amen.

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