

## HERESIES EXPOSED

June 15, 2014

### DOCTRINE:

1. **WHAT** we believe (*the Bible is the only and final authority which defines what we believe*)
2. **WHY** we believe it (*because it is God's inspired and inerrant Word to us*)

#### 2 Timothy 3:16

**"All Scripture is breathed out** (*divine inspiration, of sacred origin*) **by God...**"

#### ESTABLISHING SOUND DOCTRINE IS UNDERSTANDING:

1. **what** God said
2. **why** God said it

#### ESTABLISHING SOUND DOCTRINE HAS TWO CRITERIA:

1. **Proper Study** (*Illumination, Context, Comparison, History, Language, Meditation, Application*)
2. **Proper Motive** (*Without a surrendered heart, you will see Scripture through the filter of your personal desires and self-will and never arrive at the Truth.*)

### THE CONTINUAL WAR ON THE TRUTH

**Acts 20:29-31** (*Paul speaking to the elders in Ephesus*)

29 I know that after my departure **fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;**

30 and from **among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted** (*distort, misinterpret, corrupt*) **things, to draw away the disciples after them.**

31 Therefore be alert, **remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.**

#### Jude 3

3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, **I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith** that was once for all delivered to the saints.

### THE TARGET OF FALSE DOCTRINE IS ALWAYS GOD'S WORD (*to deny, discredit, twist, pervert and corrupt*)

- **DOUBT, DENIAL & ACCUSATION**

#### Genesis 3

1 Now **the serpent was more crafty than any other beast** of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "**Did God actually say** (*DOUBT*), 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,

3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "**You will not surely die** (*DENIAL*).

5 **For God knows (ACCUSATION) that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."**

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

- **TWISTING & DISTORTING THE MESSAGE, INTENT & METHODS** (*using God's Word in a way or for a reason God never intended*)

#### **Matthew 4:5-6**

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple

6 and said to him, "**If you are the Son of God (EVIL MOTIVE), throw yourself down (EVIL METHOD), for it is written (TWISTED MESSAGE), " 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and " 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.' "**

### **THE CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSE TO FALSE DOCTRINE**

1. Know the Scriptures for Yourself
2. Rely on the Holy Spirit of Truth
3. Zero Tolerance for False Doctrine
4. No Seek & Destroy Missions

### **HERESIES EXPOSED IN THE BIBLE - *behind every false doctrine is a carnal motive***

#### **1. SALVATION BY WORKS**

##### **THE LIE:**

*The sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, faith in what His sacrifice provides and repentance from sin is not enough for salvation. There must be additional works accomplished by self-righteousness before one can be saved.*

##### **THE CARNAL MOTIVE:**

*Salvation by works appeals to three carnal motives:*

- **PRIDE** - *pride in one's personal "goodness" and "effort"*
- **CONTROL** - *to know that my salvation depends entirely on God's forgiveness removes all control from me, I am completely at God's mercy*
- **GUILT** - *I know how sinful I am and I have to fix it, I can't just let someone else fix it*

##### **EXAMPLE:**

##### **Catholic Encyclopedia**

*"...the absolution given by the priest to a penitent who confesses his sins with the proper dispositions remits both the guilt and the eternal punishment (of mortal sin). There remains, however, some indebtedness to Divine justice which must be cancelled here or hereafter (see PURGATORY). In order to have it cancelled here, the penitent receives from his confessor what is usually called his "penance", usually in the form of certain*

*prayers which he is to say, or of certain actions which he is to perform, such as visits to a church, the Stations of the Cross, etc. Alms deeds, fasting, and prayer are the chief means of satisfaction, but other penitential works may also be enjoined. The quality and extent of the penance is determined by the confessor according to the nature of the sins revealed, the special circumstances of the penitent, his liability to relapse, and the need of eradicating evil habits. Sometimes the penance is such that it may be performed at once; in other cases it may require a more or less considerable period, as, e.g., where it is prescribed for each day during a week or a month. But even then the penitent may receive another sacrament (e.g., Holy Communion) immediately after confession, since absolution restores him to the state of grace. He is nevertheless under obligation to continue the performance of his penance until it is completed."*

#### **Acts 15:1–2**

1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, **Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.**

2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

#### **1 Timothy 4:1–3**

1 **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,**

2 **through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,**

3 **who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.**

#### **Ephesians 2:8–10**

8 **For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,**

9 **not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**

10 **For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

#### **Titus 3:4–7**

4 **But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,**

5 **he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,**

6 **whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,**

## **2. TURNING GOD'S GRACE INTO LASCIVIOUSNESS**

### **THE LIE:**

*God understands our sinful appetites and fleshly weaknesses and will overlook sin which is:*

- **DELIBERATE** - *I understand that my actions are sinful and a transgression against God*
- **STUBBORN** - *even though I understand my actions are sinful, I'm not seeking God's cleansing and deliverance for the sin to stop*
- **HABITUAL** - *my sinful actions are becoming or have become my lifestyle*

### **THE CARNAL MOTIVE:**

*lust, selfishness, self-gratification, covetousness, refusal to deny self*

### **EXAMPLE:**

#### **Open Door Community Church, Sherwood, Arkansas**

*"The leadership at Open Door Community Churches are excited to see gay and non-gay Christians worshipping together as one. We believe that gay and non-gay Christians can and should come to the table of the Lord together, side by side, without labels. We believe that as these two historically separate communities join together at the cross of Jesus Christ a healing and a new understanding of oneness in Christ occurs in both groups. We are part of a growing revival of grace-filled Christians transcending either the terms "conservative" or "liberal". Above all things, we are a GRACE CHURCH!*

*We are a family embracing the full spectrum of race, age, gender, family status, sexual orientation, economic status and denominational background."*

#### **2 Timothy 4:1–4**

- 1 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:
- 2 **PREACH THE WORD**; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.
- 3 **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,**
- 4 **and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.**

#### **2 Peter 2:1–3**

- 1 **But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies (choice, opinion), even denying (to say no) the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.**
- 2 **And many will follow their sensuality,** and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.
- 3 **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.

#### **Jude 3–5**

- 3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, **I found it necessary to write appealing to you to CONTEND FOR THE FAITH that was once for all delivered to the saints.**
- 4 **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.**
- 5 Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, **who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, AFTERWARD DESTROYED THOSE who did not believe.**

### 3. AUTHORITARIAN LEADERSHIP

#### **THE LIE:**

*Individual Christians are unable to discern fully or accurately God's will for their life without guidance from a spiritual leader. God has placed the spiritual leader in the Christian's life as an extension and representative of Jesus' Lordship, therefore to disobey the leader is to disobey Jesus Christ and God's will.*

#### **THE CARNAL MOTIVE:**

*To keep people dependent and/or intimidated so the spiritual leadership can maintain control over their lives and decisions.*

#### **EXAMPLES:**

*Often we are afraid to submit to authority because it might be abusive. Jesus was not afraid of abusive authority; he was even willing to submit and obey authority that was abusive (Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 27:11-50) ... When we trust God, we do not have to be afraid of abusive authority. Just as in the times of the New Testament, there will be people who are hurt and killed by abusive authorities, but God is still in control; if they were right with Him, and they will still be ultimately rescued to the supreme security - home with God... **It is not an option to rebel against their authority...** God's people must be aware that they have a responsibility before God to respect, obey, and submit to His anointed servants... Far too many with the church of Christ have imitated the words of Korah and other leaders of Israel who said to Moses, 'You have gone too far! The who community is holy, everyone of them, and the Lord is with them. Why do you set yourself above the Lord's assembly?...' It is true that all Christians walking in the light are holy and God is indeed with everyone of them. However, it is also true that through His spirit certain men have been assigned responsibilities to lead in the Kingdom and that **to oppose them is to oppose God who anointed them.***

***A disciple is one who obeys his discipler even if he doesn't comprehend what he's told.*** Because he wants to have a teachable heart, he will fully obey and be totally obedient even if what he's asked to do is contrary to what he would normally do or think. **To distrust the person God had put in his life is equal to distrusting God and his faith in God is shown by his faith in his discipler.**

*When the XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX is confronted with their wrong teachings, its practice is to attack the character and life of the questioner by claiming that he has "sin in his life." Such terms as "prideful," "independent spirit," and "rebellious" are used in answer to the inquirer. **The XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX believes that being "independent" or "critical" is sin.***

***The discipling hierarchy thus becomes a glorified informant network. As such, it is an effective means of control...*** Those being disciplined were told what courses to take in school, what field to major in, what career to enter, whom to date or not date, and even whom to marry or not marry.

*Once he had decided to seek his spiritual food outside the Boston Movement, a former member of that group says he experienced **the full force of friendly persuasions, peer pressure, righteous indignation, and eventually a form of "shunning," where one exists, but for all intents and purposes is "dead" in the eyes of the brothers and sisters.** To leave the XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX - even to leave for another congregation of the*

**Church of Christ - was not a recognized option; to leave was a weak, sinful thing to do, tantamount to opting for perdition.**

### **Matthew 20:25–28**

25 But Jesus called them to him and said, “**You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.**

26 **It shall not be so among you.** But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,

27 and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,

28 **even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**”

### **1 Peter 5:1–3**

1 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

2 **shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight**, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;

3 **not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.**

### **Colossians 2:16–23**

16 **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.

17 These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

18 **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,**

19 and **not holding fast to the Head**, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

20 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—

21 “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”

22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings?

23 **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.**

### **3 John 9–10**

9 I have written something to the church, but Diotrephes, who likes to put himself first, does not acknowledge our authority.

10 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.**