

Sermon Based Discussion

Sermon Title: "Beware of False Teachers"

Sermon Series: Putting the Church in Order (The Book of Titus)

Sermon Text: Titus 1:9-16

INTRODUCTION

If you were to go to a new city and look for a church to settle into – there are many criteria you could use. Is the church easy to get to? Does it have nice facilities? Are the people friendly? Is the music lively? Is the preaching interesting? But perhaps the most important question is whether the church teaches sound doctrine. Some people assume that because a church is Christian, the teaching is the same. But one needs to be careful to determine if the beliefs that the church holds to and the message being taught each week are in accordance to the teachings of God's Word.

OPENING QUESTION

1. Did you ever get a virus on your computer? Share about how it happened and the effect it had.

INTO THE BIBLE (Read Titus 1:9-16)

1. How does Paul characterize the false teachers that he is warning Titus against?
2. Does Paul see anything good about these false teachers? Why is Paul seemingly lacking in love and in tolerance for these people?
3. How should people treat these false teachers?

GOING DEEPER

4. In Titus 1:9 (and 2:1) Paul assumes Titus knows what is the "trustworthy message" and "sound doctrine". What is sound doctrine? If you do not know what is sound doctrine, how can you find out?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

If you're not a Christian, you may have thought all religions are the same. But Paul makes the point there are some important, critical differences. Do a study and outline those important differences in what is believed and taught among various religions.

If you're a Christian, would you be able to refute false teachers? Would you be able to even discern what is false teaching? Someone has said the way to discern counterfeit money is the study and know the real thing. Will you commit yourself to gain a solid foundation in the teachings of God's word?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Galatians 1:6-9

⁶I 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— ⁷which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But 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! ⁹As 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!