



Lecture #1, Part 3

Course Information

1. Course Description

A study of the persons of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and their unified teaching of the doctrines of the Bible.

Survey of the Doctrines of the Bible

1A-Introduction to Doctrine

1-Apostles' Doctrine

Acts 2:42

2-Heresy

Titus 3:10

3-Double Verities

John 21:18

4-Faith- Definition

Rom. 1:17

5-Failure of Faith

Rom. 4:20

6-Witness of the Spirit

Rom. 8:16

7-Fundamentalism

Heb. 6:1-2

8-Tradition

2 Thes. 2:15

9-Principles of Interpretation

2 Tim. 2:15

Introduction to Doctrinal Footnotes

These theological footnotes are divided into three sections (1) explanation, (2) illustration, and (3) application. When you have absorbed all the notes within one topic area, you will have completed a total survey of that doctrine.

1A-Introduction to Doctrine

1-Apostles' Doctrine

Acts 2:42

Explanation: The word doctrine derives from the Latin term for teaching and refers to the content that was taught in the New Testament. The proper teaching of Scripture was called “**the apostles’ doctrine**,” meaning that which the apostles taught. This contrasted with erroneous teaching called ‘doctrines of devils ([1 Tim. 4:1](#)), meaning that teaching whose source is not God but the messengers of Satan, whose desire it is to substitute false religion for Christianity ([2 Cor. 11:13-15](#)).

Illustration: The apostles’ doctrine was true, not because an apostle taught it, but because it was consistent with the Scriptures. The Bereans examined the teaching of Paul in light of the Scripture before accepting it ([Acts 17:11](#)). Also, the church at Ephesus examined some who called themselves apostles and found them liars ([Rev. 2:2](#)).

Application: A Christian should attempt to understand and believe true doctrine, while rejecting all that disagrees with the Word of God ([1 John 4:1](#)).



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2-Heresy

Titus 3:10

Explanation: The word heresy literally means “choosing one’s own ideas,” but now refers to that which is untrue. Even the New Testament church had false or heretical teachers who taught erroneous doctrine. Some epistles were specifically written to combat them (e.g., [Galatians](#), [2 Thessalonians](#)). Paul warned the Romans against identifying with those who promoted divisive, heretical teachings ([Rom. 16:17](#)). He advised Titus to reject heretics if they did not respond after two warnings ([v.10](#)). John warned that a heretic should not be admitted into a Christian’s home ([2 John 10](#)).

Illustration: Not everyone who makes an incorrect doctrinal statement is a heretic. When Apollos was further instructed concerning the gospel, he grew into a mighty Christian leader ([Acts 18:24-28](#)). By contrast, Hymeneus and Philetus were heretics when they rejected truth and hurt the faith of some believers ([2 Tim. 2:16-18](#)).

Application: Christians should as much as possible dissociate themselves from every heretic so as to be unhindered in their Christian lives.

3-Double Verities

John 21:18

Explanation: Twenty-five times in the Gospel of John, Jesus uses the expression Verily, verily to introduce a concept the hearer might have a difficulty believing. This intensive expression emphasized that what was stated was true just as God is true. In the Old Testament, a person who might be doubted would use such an expression to insist that he was telling the truth ([Num. 5:22](#)).

Illustration: In the New Testament, Peter confessed he found some of Paul’s epistles hard to understand; nevertheless he accepted them with other Scriptures ([2 Peter 3:15-16](#)).

Application: When a Christian approaches his Bible, he should do so with a commitment to believe the whole Word of God and not just part of it.