



Lecture #2, Part 1

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

7-Fundamentalism

Heb. 6:1-2

Explanation: Fundamentalism is a movement growing out of the controversy with religious liberalism at the beginning of this century, when godly a Christian leader insisted that certain truths were fundamental to Christianity and could not be compromised. These included divine creation, the verbal inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture, the virgin birth of Christ, His deity, substitutionary atonement, bodily resurrection, and physical return, and the existence of a literal heaven and hell. Though good Christians might disagree in other areas, to deny these essentials is to abandon the Christian faith.

Illustration: History records the sad accounts of some who refused to accept scriptural authority and made shipwrecks of their faith. For example, Diotrophes opposed an epistle from John, and then began harming the ministry of faithful Christians under his influence (3 John 9-10).

Application: Christians are wise to build their lives and ministries upon the solid foundation of Christ's teaching (Matt. 7:24-25).



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8-Tradition

2 Thes. 2:15

Explanation: The word tradition literally means “a giving over by word of mouth or writing.” It refers to teachings handed down from one person to another. Tradition is not in and of itself wrong; it is only wrong when opposed to the Word of God. In the early church, good tradition was the principal means of Christian instruction ([Luke 1:2](#)). Paul used this word to describe his teachings, especially at Corinth and Thessalonica ([2 Thes. 2:15](#); [2 Thes. 3:6](#)). False tradition ends up as heresy or apostasy.

Illustration: The religious leaders of Jesus’ day erred in placing the traditions of men above the Word of God ([Matt. 15:1-9](#)). In contrast, Luke sifted through existing records and apparently interviewed witnesses in writing an inspired record to instruct Theophilus in the faith ([Luke 1:1-4](#)).

Application: Christians need to sit under the preaching and teaching of the Word of God, but when the content conflicts with the Scriptures, the teaching of men should be disregarded for the certain truth of the Bible.

9-Principles of Interpretation

2 Tim. 2:15

Explanation: As we study the Word of God, we should apply both the spiritual and literal principles of interpretation. The spiritual principles include prayer ([Psalm 119:18](#)), cleansing ([1 John 1:9](#)), and the illumination by the Holy Spirit ([1 Cor. 2:12-16](#)). The principle of literally understanding Scripture is to interpret it according to:

- (1) the mind of the author;
- (2) its historical background;
- (3) the context of the passage; and
- (4) the basic rules of grammar.

Illustration: Joshua was promised success if he meditated on the law ([Josh. 1:8](#)), and he won that success when he conquered the kings of Canaan. As a disciple of Moses, and as one who had a personal relationship with God, he could interpret the law of God and understand God’s will for his life.

Application: If we desire the will of God in our lives, we must regularly and systematically interpret God’s Word according to its proper meaning.