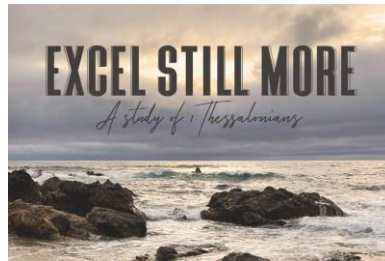


DISCIPLE'S QUEST

If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

John 8:31



April 14, 2024

1 Thessalonians 5:20-22

**The Believer's Guide for Living and Striving After Holiness in the Lord's Church,
Part 6: Instructions for Living According to God's Word**

Main Idea:

To grow in holiness, we must cherish God's Word and learn it. That commitment necessitates that we also practice spiritual discernment, and subsequently that we strive to live in obedience to the truth.

Outline:

Three instructions for living according to God's Word:

- 1) Rightly esteem God's Word

- 2) Practice discernment when you listen to God's Word being taught

- 3) Take action by responding appropriately to the message preached
 - If the message is good, (if it squares with the Scriptures) hold it fast and live accordingly

 - If the message is evil, (IF it does not agree with Scripture) reject it

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

- #1 How can Believers today be guilty of treating the faithful preaching/teaching of God's Word with contempt?

- #2 According to the message, growing in spiritual maturity requires discernment. What spiritual disciplines fuel our growth in the faith and also prepare us to discern?

- #3 When we hear a message preached that is in accord with Scripture and therefore "good," is it our duty to then embrace it and live out its implications? Why?

- #4 According to the message, how did the gift of prophecy prior to the completion of the canon of Scripture differ from prophecy today?

Why do we no longer need prophets to deliver new revelation directly from God?

Select helpful resources:

Hiebert, D. Edmund. *1st & 2nd Thessalonians*. BMH Books: Winona Lake, IN, 1996.

MacArthur, John F. *1st & 2nd Thessalonians The MacArthur New Testament Commentary*. Chicago: Moody Bible Institute, 2002.

Thomas, Robert L., Ralph Earle, and D. Edmund Hiebert. *The Expositor's Bible Commentary. 1st & 2nd Thessalonians, 1st & 2nd Timothy, Titus*. Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 1996.