

1 Timothy 4

Love and Truth

I. Religion: The Doctrine of Demons

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith

- Spirit **expressly** says; i.e. without a shadow of doubt
- **In latter times...**Some will **depart** from the faith
 1. Tempted to leave
 2. Willingly leaving

1b [Apostates will give]...heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.

- **Give heed:** Draw near/become attentive to...
- **Deceiving** [seducing] **spirits:** Lit. a vagabond, tramp, imposters

Revelation 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who **deceives the whole world**

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the **devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.** 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

- **Apostasy process:**
 1. Listen to deceiving spirits
 2. Follow the teaching of Demons
 3. Broadcast deception to others...

2 [Apostates begin]...speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron...

- **Speaking lies:**

Some lies are so powerful that they have an evident spiritual dynamic behind them. These are lies crafted and marketed by deceiving spirits. [Guzic]

- **Satan's 1st language:** Lies

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

- **Demonic Indoctrination Sequence:**
 1. Listening to demonic lies deadens conscience to God's Word
 2. Believing lies and rejecting the Truth
 3. Ends in propagating lies to others...

3 ...forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods...

- **Forbid and Command:** Motive of Religion is power/money not love

What are Doctrines of Demons? Religion.

- **Latter times:** Covering many years
 1. 2nd Century: **Gnosticism:** Adherents shunned the material world
 2. Still Today
- **Forbid Marriage**
 1. Catholicism: Celibacy for priests/nuns
- **Command not to eat certain foods**
 1. **Catholicism:** No meat on Friday?
 2. **Islam:** No pork
 3. **7th Day Adventists:** Whatever
 4. **Messianic movements**

God owes us something for our sacrifice?

"The controversy is not about flesh or fish, or about black or ashen colours, or about Wednesday or Friday, but about the mad superstitions of men who wish to obtain God's favour by such trifles and by contriving a carnal worship, invent for themselves an idol in God's place." [Calvin]

3b... [They forbid foods] ...which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

- **Foods which God created to be...**
 1. Received with thanksgiving. And will be...
 2. Received by those who **"know the truth"**

4 For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; **5** for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

- **Sanctified by the Word of God:** Living Word declared all foods set apart to God

Mark 7:5 "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?" **6** He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites..."

7:14 When He had called all the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear Me, everyone, and understand: **15** There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man. **16** If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!" **17** When He had entered a house away from the crowd, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable. **18** So He said to them, "Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, **19** because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, **thus purifying all foods?"** **20** And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. **21** For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, **22** thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. **23** All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

NIV ...In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.

NAS ...Thus He declared all foods clean.

- **Sanctified by the Word of God and...**
- **Sanctified by prayer:** Prayer before eating; e.g. Jesus blessed the food

SUMMARY Apostasy: Begins by departing from the Word of God and giving heed to stories and fables and the writings of men.

1 Timothy 1:3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith. 5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, 6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

- **Path to Apostasy:**
 1. Go outside the Word of God
 2. Take interest in conflict rather than growth
 3. Turn to idle talk
 4. Desire to be a religious teacher for money/power
 5. Allow pride to in; i.e. "I know better" or "I have a new take on it"
 6. Give heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons
 7. Believe your own stuff not realizing its not yours but demonic
 8. Command others to believe your own stuff
 9. Forbid things God does not forbid under the guise of Spirituality

What about the OT dietary **Laws in Leviticus Chapter 11?**

- **Law was given by God to the Jews:** Covenant between God and Jewish People
- **3 Categories of Jewish Law**
 1. **Moral Law:**
 - a) Given Jews but applicable to all people
 - b) Breaking the moral law was is and always will be sin
 - c) Holy, Just and Unchanging
 2. **Judicial Law:** For Jewish societal order and those who convert to Judaism
 3. **Ceremonial Law:** Given to Jews
- **Included in Ceremonial Law:**
 1. **Feasts and Festival:** Remembering God's great works
 2. **Sabbaths:** Rest
 3. **Sacrifices:** Covering sin of the Nation
 4. **Circumcision:** Picture of removing the flesh and living by the Spirit
 5. **Food restrictions**
- **Intention for Ceremonial Laws:** Set God's people apart gentile nations/idolaters
 1. Jews clean as they kept the Ceremonial Law
 2. Gentiles unclean until converted and began keeping Ceremonial Law

Jesus fulfilled the Ceremonial Law; i.e. we don't have to keep it

- **Peter's vision:** End of the dietary law; obsolete picture of Jews/Gentile separation...

Acts 10:12 In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. 13 And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." 14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." 15 And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common."

- Paul speaking to the Gentile believers in Ephesus:

Ephesians 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the **law of commandments contained in ordinances**, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

- **Jesus Accomplishment on the Cross:**
 1. Made peace between OT and NT believers; i.e. Jews and Gentiles
 2. Abolished the difference; the Law given to the Jews
 3. Saved both Jew/Gentile by the cross giving both access to the Father by:

Simple faith in the only "Keeper of the Law" shedding His blood on our behalf

- Jesus fulfilled the Ceremonial Law. It is over.

Galatians 3:23 ...before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

1. The Ceremonial Law was a shadow of the reality of Jesus
2. The Ceremonial Law melts in the Light of the Face of Jesus Christ
3. **When Jesus came the Ceremonial Law left:**
 - a) Feasts/Festival
 - b) Sabbaths
 - c) Sacrifices
 - d) Circumcision
 - e) Food restrictions are obsolete

Since Jesus fulfilled the Ceremonial Law...Anyone engaging in these practices for the purpose of "becoming clean" apart from/adding to Jesus sacrifice is engaging in false-religion...**Doctrine of Demons** [Religion]

Colossians 2:16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. 18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God. 20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— 21 "Do not touch, do not taste, do not

handle," 22 which all concern things which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

- **Pharisees did to Judaism what Catholicism did to Christianity**
 1. Exchanged relationship with God to religion of man
 2. Promised closeness to God but instead separated man from God by self-righteousness and pride
- **Ceremonial Law was:**
 1. **Temporal:** For as specific time
 2. **Particular:** For a specific purpose
- Ceremonial law was given to look forward to Jesus by setting God's people apart until Jesus

We no longer worship God through ceremony but by giving ourselves to God by serving others...not propping ourselves up through rituals

SUMMARY: Religion: The Doctrine of Demons. Anything added to the cross nullifies the cross. Period.

II. Instruction, Edification, and Warning

6 If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

- **IF** you man up and instruct people in difficult teaching you will be:
 1. **Commended:** Well done good and faithful servant by Chief Shepherd
 2. **Nourished:** Fed by your own admonishment of others
 3. **Built up:** We grow when we teaching others

7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. 8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

- **Reject:** Profane stories and old wives fables
 1. Stories
 2. Myths
- **Instead:** Exercise yourself TOWARD Godliness
 1. Physical exercise is profitable for this life
 2. Spiritual discipline is profitable for this life and eternity

9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

...exercise yourself toward godliness

- **Godliness:** Character and attitude of God; profitable for all things

Spiritual development and physical development share some similarities. With each, growth only comes with exertion and proper feeding. [Guzic]

Don't waste time with useless pursuits but redeem the time ministering to others and storing treasure in heaven; i.e. the life to come

10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

- **We:** You and me Timothy
 1. Both labor
 2. Both suffer reproach
 3. Both trust in the Living God

...who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

"What God intends for ALL, he actually gives to them that believe in Christ, who died for the sins of the world, and tasted death for every man. As all have been purchased by his blood so all may believe; and consequently all may be saved. Those that perish, perish through their own fault." [Clarke]

- **WE:** Relating to one another
 1. Jesus was numbered with sinners at baptism and the cross
 2. We should relate to others as we minister

11 These things command and teach.

- All of the above
 1. Speak truth
 2. Call out falseness and hypocrisy

SUMMARY Instruction and Edification

III. Take Heed

12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

- Don't let anyone ridicule you because you are young: Timothy about 30...Paul 70
- 2 Choices to "let no one despise your youth":
 1. I have been called, anointed, and appointed though I am young.
 2. Instead be an example to congregation in...
- **Word:** People are waiting. Be an example of one who knows Word

James 3:1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. **2** For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders [not an age but a calling] who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who **labor in the word and doctrine.**

- **Conduct:** People are watching. Be an example of one who does the Word

Colossians 1:9 ...be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God

Ephesians 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- **Love: People are needing,** Be an example of one who live the Word

1 Corinthians 13:13 ... abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

- **Spirit:** People are expecting. Be Filled with Holy Spirit/Empty of self

Ephesians 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit

- **Faith:** People are anxious. Be an example walking in steadfast faith looking to Jesus

Proverbs 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.25 Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you.26 Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.27 Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

- **Purity:** People are **cynical**. Be an example of wholesomeness

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

Don't let them despise your youth...Be an example of what God can do in a man/woman fully given to Him [v15]

"The world has yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to him. By God's help, I aim to be that man." [Moody quoting Varley]

13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

- **Overarching Duties of Pastor:**
 1. Reading
 2. Exhortation
 3. Doctrine

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.** 16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.

- Pastors are to be "in the Word" not micro managing

Acts 6:3 ... seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to **prayer and to the ministry of the word.**"

14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

It is possible to neglect our gifts

- **Gifts:** Not stated:
 1. Prophecy?
 2. Evangelism?

- **Laying on of hands:** Timothy ordained as Pastor

15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

- **Meditate:** All of the above

Give your whole self wholly to God...people will notice and follow

16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine.

- Pay constant attention to...
 1. **Your Life:** Walk
 2. **Your Doctrine:** Teaching

16b...Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

- **Save yourself and those you preach to...**

James 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Walking the walk you talk does not save you... but it does prove out your Salvation

Walk the Walk Timothy...I know its difficult...but stay in Ephesus

SUMMARY Take Heed