



BELIEVE

GUARDING THE GOSPEL THROUGH SOUND DOCTRINE



ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES WE MUST BELIEVE



The church as a whole, and we as Christians, must hold firmly to the essential doctrines of Scripture because what we believe about God determines how we live, how we worship, and how we fulfill our mission.



SOUND DOCTRINE is what we pass to another generation.



SOUND DOCTRINE is what we teach when we disciple believers.

1 TIMOTHY 1:3, 11

KEY TRUTHS FOR SOUND DOCTRINE — CORE TEACHINGS FOR RIGHT LIVING

WHY DOCTRINE MATTERS



SOUND DOCTRINE IS COMMANDED BY GOD

1 TIMOTHY 1:3 (NIV 1984)

"...stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer."

- Paul did not tell Timothy to avoid doctrine because it causes division.
- He commanded him to **guard truth** because error (false doctrine) destroys souls and churches. Which means Satan will go after right doctrine. He immediately did so in church history... and still does.
- The church is not built on opinions, preferences, or traditions, but on the revealed Word of God. Because the revealed Word of God is truth!



1 TIMOTHY 1:10–11 (NIV 1984)

(10) ... sound doctrine
(11) that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me."

- ✓ It must conform to the Gospel.
- ✓ It has been entrusted to us.

A HISTORIC REMINDER

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."
(1627)

BIBLICAL BALANCE



There are doctrines (beliefs we must have and teach) we must defend.



There are some areas where faithful Christians may disagree. And have for centuries.



But every disagreement must be handled with Christlike love.



Let's look at those essentials... those non-negotiable truths that affect how we worship & live.

1. THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE (BIBLIOLOGY)



SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED

God has Spoken

The Bible is not merely man's ideas about God. It is God-breathed and given through the Holy Spirit.



2 PETER 1:20–21 (NIV 1984)

"Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For no prophecy had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."



2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17 (NIV 1984)

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness... so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped (for every good work)."

SCRIPTURE IS AUTHORITATIVE

Therefore We Must Listen

The Bible is our final authority for:



WHAT WE BELIEVE



HOW WE LIVE



HOW WE WORSHIP

A culture may change its beliefs,
but God's Word does not change. It can not change.

CULTURE CHANGES.
GOD'S WORD **NEVER** CHANGES.
TRUTH IS NOT CREATED BY MAN—
IT IS REVEALED BY GOD.

- ✓ BELIEVE IT.
- ✓ GUARD IT.
- ✓ LIVE IT.
- ✓ PASS IT ON.

