

- 1) **TIERS OF SOUND DOCTRINE:** Foundations – core truths of Christianity, Distinctions – set churches apart from each other but doesn't disrupt unity, Convictions – held by individuals of the same church, circle of friends, etc. ... Each hold to sound doctrine and don't contradict what the bible says ... Heresy and false teaching involve any teaching that contradicts or changes the foundational truths of Christianity

- 2) **FALSE TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH: 1:10-16** – rebellious, deceptive, greedy, manipulative, abusive, liars, unbelieving
 - a) 'Circumcision party' – Jewish group of "Christians" who oppose teaching of the apostles, and who command other Christians to take on certain traditions or rules to follow Christ "correctly" (see 1Tm4:1-3, Cl2:16-18)

 - b) **REASON FOR CONFRONTING THEM: 1:11, ruining entire households** – individual families and individual churches

 - c) **GOAL IN CONFRONTING THEM: 1:13, sound in the faith** ... **Sound** – to be without error ... **Sound faith** comes from **sound teaching** ... **Sound teaching** doesn't include **Jewish myths** or **commands of men who reject the Truth** ... **Refute** and **Rebuke** – bring to light error so change occurs ... Goal: **repentance and salvation** – **sound in the faith** (see 2Tm2:24-26)

- 3) **BIBLICAL TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH: 1:9** – hold faithfully to the Truth, as they guard, oversee, and teach the church
 - a) **GUARD THE FLOCK:** **hold to the faithful message as taught** – **guard themselves** by holding firmly to the Truth ... **refute those who contradict sound teaching** – **guard flock** by exposing those who challenge to change the Truth

 - b) **OVERSEE THE FLOCK:** **encourage with sound teaching** – **oversee flock** by instructing and leading with sound teaching ... **as taught** – **oversee themselves** by learning with the flock ... Every leader must also be a learner

 - c) **TEACH THE FLOCK:** A requirement for being a pastor and elder is being able to teach ... **How he teaches** is according to his own giftedness and responsibility ... The phrase **able to teach** is used differently by Paul to express a leader's
 - i) **Integrity** – 2Tm2:24-26 ... a leader who's able to teach is one who speaks with humble authority ... Not arrogant or smug when talking to others ... Not forcing personal convictions ... Point isn't to win the argument, but to see people changed by the Truth ... When Christians act like the world, people see no reason to take notice ... But when we act like Christ, we give people a reason to take notice

 - ii) **Responsibility** – Tt1:9 ... a leader who's able to teach is one who helps individuals understand and apply God's word so they're able to grow in their faith

 - iii) **Accountability** – 2Tm2:2 ... a leader who's able to teach is one who actively model's what he's teaching others ... Pastors and elders are to be disciple-makers ... They're to model this as well as teach this