No Other Doctrine

 Level 4 Lesson 18

* **Introduction**

*John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

How do we know which church is right?

The only way to know for sure is to search the scriptures! The Word of God contains God’s thoughts and plans. If we search His Word, we will find the one true Doctrine. This is not a lesson teaching Repentance, Baptism in Jesus Name, or receiving the Holy Ghost. But this is a lesson about what to do when you find these doctrines in the Word of God.

* **Lesson**

The Apostle Paul wrote in the Book of Galatians to the New Testament church in Galatia:

*Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:*

*Gal 1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.*

*Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.*

*Gal 1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.*

*Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.*

*Gal 1:11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.*

*Gal 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

Paul was adamant that **the** gospel that the Apostles preached was not to be changed

or watered down, not even by the Apostles, or an angel from heaven. Wow! That is harsh! Or is it? Well, Paul stated that Jesus Christ revealed that doctrine to him and that we ought to please God and not men. One thing that is interesting about these verses is that Paul said that if anyone tried to convince you of any other way, you need to let them be accursed. If you are accursed there is no eternal hope for you!!!! This leads us to believe that doctrine is extremely important to get right, and to keep right. Also, Paul instructs us that there will be people trying to trick you away from the one true doctrine. This is a real problem that we cannot take lightly!

Paul also wrote in the book of Romans some extraordinarily strong warnings concerning this problem. He commands us to stay away from false doctrine and false teachers who work very deceitfully trying to separate you from sound doctrine. But, on the contrary, we should separate ourselves from those who bring something different than what was taught at the beginning. He even goes as far as to tell us not to even study their teachings. We are to study sound doctrine and avoid the rest.

*Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*

*Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.*

*Rom 16:19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.*

It is ok to be ignorant of false teachings! But, on the contrary, we are charged to study the Word!

The problem from the beginning of the first church was the false teaching that Jesus was just a man. The spirit of antichrist has been around for a long time. We **must** know the spirit of truth. The spirit of error must not deceive us. Remember, when you are deceived, you don’t know it. If we will follow the Apostles Doctrine, we will be safe.

*1Jn 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*

*1Jn 4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:*

*1Jn 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

*1Jn 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

*1Jn 4:5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.*

*1Jn 4:6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*

We are instructed to not fellowship with those trying to teach us something different than what the Apostles taught. They are not born into the family. They are not our brothers. They are serving themselves and not Christ.

*2Jn 1:10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:*

*2Jn 1:11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.*

We should not let them teach us, nor fellowship with us. How can we say, “God Bless you,” when God says that they are accursed? Peer pressure can be strong, but the Word gives us a clear command to not buckle, else you become, “a partaker of their evil deeds.” We cannot be a part of that!!!!

A simple, but clear statement was written by Paul to the New Testament church in Galatia.

*Gal 5:9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*

We, the church, are the lump. Leaven is sin, or false doctrine. If we start ingesting a little false teaching here, and a little false teaching there, it is written that it will affect the entire body. Leaven (the sin of heresy, or false teaching) is not safe in any amount.

* **Activity**

Bring two packages of dry yeast, four cups flour, ½ cup of sugar and ¼ cup of warm water (you can bring some in a thermos) to class. In one bowl mix the yeast and **warm, not hot** water until dissolved, then add some sugar. Watch what the mixture does. You will notice that the yeast will be mixed with the water and then with the sugar. Soon it will start to move, then add some flour. Give it some time and see the yeast start working in the flour. One thing to notice is that once the yeast is mixed with the water you cannot separate the ingredients. They become intermixed together. *A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*

It would be good to bring a loaf of bread with leaven (yeast) in it and some without yeast. The leaven swells and produces air pockets causing bread to rise and be fluffy and inflated. Without the leaven (yeast) the bread will be flat and pure.