

Christians must flee False Doctrine
Romans 16:17-19
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of fleeing from false teaching, that is to say damnable teaching.

- Intro:
1. Too many today are willing to excuse or just ignore the teaching of false doctrine.
 2. Some will instead insist that a preacher or eldership doesn't believe such things.
 3. As concerned Christians we must be willing to ask questions and not to be satisfied by anything less than agreement with God's word.
 4. Some of course call this an argumentative attitude, however the Bible says we must be watchful, after these matters are of eternal consequence.

I. ...do not serve our Lord

A. False teaching is contrary to God

1. Since false teaching separate men from God, such people do not serve the Lord.
a. **Mt 15:9**
2. False teaching is going against God's word.

B. Divisions & offenses

1. Some would have you believe it's wrong to cause division over what someone teachers. However, in **Romans 16:17** we are to mark those who cause divisions & offenses because their doctrine is CONTRARY to what they have been taught (that is sound teaching).
2. It's not wrong or sinful to be divided over false doctrine, it would be wrong to accept it, but not wrong to reject it (**1 Tim 4:6-7**).
3. Some teaching falsely because of their relationships with others who do the same (**2 Peter 2:15**)

II. ...deceive the hearts of the simple

A. Deceive

1. To deceive is "to be false to" (merriam webster) or even to "cheat".
2. So these individual are false to others (liars) and cheat people of eternal life.
(**Col 2:8, Col 2:18**).

B. hearts of the simple

1. This doesn't have to be reference to those who are ignorant, though that would be part of it.
2. The simple could also be a reference to those who simply trust what they are taught, they are too trusting and do not examine what they have heard (**Acts 17:11**).

III. Lessons for us today.

A. Souls are at risk.

1. False teaching is leaven in the lump (**1 Cor 5:6-8**).
2. Suching teaching must be purged out or the flock will be at risk.

B. Promoting false teachers is promotion of false doctrine.

1. **Romans 1:32**

2. **2 John 1:9-11**

Application & Conclusion:

1. Should a Christian today refuse to settle for some truth & some false when comes to teaching?
2. There is a difference between opinion & matters of salvation. Friends you cannot condone or ignore false teaching that affects you.
3. Full Invitation

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Luke 13:3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – Rev 2:10,

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9