Teach No Other Doctrine – 1 Tim. 1:1-7

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I. Introduction

II. Key Thought: Teachers and preachers today must charge some to teach no other doctrine.

III. The relationship between Paul and Timothy – v. 1-2
   a. Paul
      i. An apostle – one sent with a message
      ii. Of Jesus –
         1. the sender
         2. the owner of the apostle
         3. chosen by Him – Acts 9
      iii. In obedience to the command of
         1. God – our savior
         2. Jesus Christ – our hope
   b. Timothy
      i. Son or child
         1. He had been converted by Paul
            a. Joined his travels at the beginning of Paul’s 2nd preaching journey – Acts 16:1-3
         2. A true son
            a. He had grown to be like his spiritual father and mentor
            b. Faithful in the duties assigned to him
            c. No one like minded – Phil 2:19-23
         3. In the faith
            a. No natural relationship
            b. But faith made a bond stronger than any other
            c. Blood is thicker than water
            d. Jesus blood is thicker than any other blood
            e. For the faithful
      ii. Loved by Paul – he wishes him
         1. Grace
         2. Mercy
         3. Peace
         4. From
            a. God – the father
            b. Christ Jesus – our Lord

IV. Timothy’s mission in Ephesus – v. 3-4
   a. When
      i. Does not seem to match any of the travels in the book of Acts
         1. Paul went from Ephesus to Macedonia only once (Acts 20:1)
2. And Timothy preceded him to Macedonia, rather than being left behind (Acts 19:22)
3. It appears, then, that Paul is referring to a different visit to Ephesus from those recorded in Acts, most likely after he was released from his first imprisonment in Rome

b. There was something that needed tended to in his absence
   i. Paul had to continue his journey
   ii. But there were still some issues that needed to be taken care of
   iii. Timothy was the right one for the job

c. Charge some –
   i. Charge –
      1. Transmit a message from one to another, declare, announce
      2. command, order, charge
   ii. The charge
      1. Teach no other doctrine
      2. Not pay attention to other things
         a. Myths
         b. Endless genealogies
   iii. An ongoing concern
      a. 1 Tim. 6:3-5
      b. 1 Tim. 6:20:21
      c. 2 Tim. 2:15-18
      d. 2 Tim. 4:1-4
      e. Tit. 1:10-11
      f. Tit. 3:9
      g. The preachers were different, the times were different, the churches were different, the countries were different, but the warnings were the same
   h. We must heed the same warnings today
   iii. What is wrong with other doctrines
      1. They cause disputes
      2. They don’t cause godly edification/management/administration
      3. They are not by faith (Rom. 10:17)

V. The purpose of the command – v. 5
   a. Not oppressive legalism
      i. Some would characterize attempts to maintain doctrinal purity as essentially bad
         1. Pharisaical
         2. A denial of the liberty we have in Christ
         3. Legalistic
      ii. The reality was there were three very good reasons for the church to maintain doctrinal purity
         1. Pure-hearted love
         2. Good conscience
         3. Sincere faith
4. These things were the purpose of Paul’s command
b. Other doctrines undermine these things – How?
   i. Love
      1. It is not loving to cause disputes among brethren by teaching other doctrines
      2. “Upsetting whole families” – Tit. 1:11
      3. “Produces envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction” – 1 Tim. 6:3-4
      4. One who would do so may love their own opinions, or to cause trouble, but these are not expressions of the love of Christ
      5. Paul’s command was intended to support and maintain pure-hearted love
      6. Teach no other doctrine!
   ii. Conscience
      1. Other doctrines can persuade people to do things that they know or believe to be wrong, when they do so, they sin and their consciences are defiled
      2. Other doctrines are sometimes taught by people who are not fully persuaded of their truth, to teach opinions as truth is a sin and defiles the conscience
      3. If a person is fully convinced of a false doctrine, their conscience tells them that what is right is wrong and what is wrong is right – that is bad conscience, not a good one!
      4. To have a weak or defiled conscience weakens the resolve to remain free from other sins
      5. The conscience must be purified by Christ’s forgiveness
      6. Paul’s command was intended to maintain their good conscience
      7. Teach no other doctrine!
   iii. Faith
      1. Teaching the truth increases faith
      2. Even if I initially disagree with the truth, hearing it will cause my faith to grow if I love the truth
      3. But other doctrines disrupt sincere faith
         a. Causes some to swerve from the faith – 1 Tim. 6:21
         b. If they are believed the hearer now has faith in a lie
         c. Even if they are not believed, they may cause doubts and weakness of faith in the hearer
      4. The disputes caused by other doctrines can shake the faith of some
      5. Matt. 18:6-7 – Woe to that person!
      6. It was the intent of Paul’s command to maintain their sincere faith
         c. The PURPOSE of refusing other doctrines was and is to preserve and promote
i. Pure-hearted Love,
ii. Good Conscience
iii. Sincere faith
iv. For these reasons, we must teach no other doctrine
d. Turning away from these things leads one into other doctrines – v. 6-7
   i. More interested in fruitless discussion/idle talk
      1. Than love, good conscience and pure faith
      2. These are the three best reasons to teach
      3. Any other motives are dangerous
   ii. Want to teach but -
      1. Insufficient understanding
      2. Make confident assertions about things they don’t know
      3. ILLUSTRATION: Note in sermon outline – “Weak point – Pound pulpit”
   iii. Very susceptible to other doctrines
VI. Solution to the problem of other doctrines
   a. Preachers and teachers must remind us to stay away from them
      i. When they present themselves they should be identified and addressed
      ii. Not by spreading them secretly among the weak and immature of the faith
      iii. By examination by the wise and mature by the standard of the Scriptures
   b. We must value and pursue
      i. Pure hearted Love
      ii. Good Conscience
      iii. Sincere Faith
   c. Work on character weaknesses that may make us susceptible to other doctrines
      i. Desire to teach that is not motivated by the THREE
      ii. Lack of understanding
      iii. Desire to speak authoritatively even when unjustified
      iv. Continuing to walk with Jesus and grow in Him is the best protection
VII. Conclusion
   a. Ever since the earliest days of the church, it has had to weather the storms of different doctrines
   b. Church leaders and individual Christians must remember and be aware of the dangers to that they will not be harmed by them
   c. In obedience to the command Paul gave Timothy, I charge each of you
      i. Teach no other doctrine!
   d. Invitation
      i. Only the doctrine preached by the apostles of Jesus Christ can save
      ii. Recorded in the New Testament
      iii. Gospel plan of salvation