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Simplicity of The Word

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He That has an Ear, Let Him Hear, What the Spirit Says to the Churches

2021 Disciples Reformation Conference









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FALSE TEACHERS & DOCTRINE PART 1

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect (Matthew 24:24)



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WHAT "PLEASES" GOD?

- He Tells us in His Word
 - Matthew 3:17 "And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
 - Matthew 12:18 "Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul
 is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles."
 - Matthew 17:5 "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."
 - Hebrews 13:15-16 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased"
 - 2 Peter 1:16-18 "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
 - For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom **I am well pleased.** And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount."



WHAT THE GOSPEL IS ... AND IS NOT

- We must recognize what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is before we can determine if it is being distorted by false teachers
- It is Not A genre of Music -- a Religious Denomination A style of Worship
- The word "Gospel" means: "A thing that is absolutely true".
- This is the Birth Life Death Resurrection and Return of Jesus Christ!
- Our view and understanding of any of these element of the Gospel can be distorted by false Teaching and Doctrine
 - Jesus was born of a Virgin who was overshadowed by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35)
 - Jesus, our High Priest lived a sinless life (Hebrew 4:15)
 - Jesus died a real death (John 19:33-34)
 - Jesus defeated the power of death by being resurrected (1 Corinth 15:54-56)
 - Jesus Will Return! (1 & 2 Thess)



DRAWN AWAY AND ENTICED

JAMES 1:12-16

Desires

Drive

Motives Drive

Actions

- Desires are rooted in the Heart
- Motives are generated in the Mind
- Actions are carried out with the Body or our Strength
- The impacts of these three determine the condition of our Soul

Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. (Psalms 37:4)



DRAWN AWAY AND ENTICED

- This makes Mark 12:30 even more powerful "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.
- If we Love God with...
 - Our Heart (Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Proverbs 4:23)
 - Our Mind (be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:2)
 - Our Strength (That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness (Col 1:10-11)



OLD TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVE

False prophets were identified Old Testament

- Instructions on how to recognize them (Duet 13:1-11)
- Warning to pastor that scatter the sheep (Jeremiah 23:1)
- Warning to profane leaders (Jeremiah 23:11-14)
- Prophets that lie to the people(Jeremiah 14:18)
- When they follow their own spirit (Ezekiel 13:1-10)

Old Testament Tests for False Prophets

Did they use fortune telling or divination?	Jeremiah 14:14; Ezekiel 12:24; Micah 3:7
Have short-term prophecies been fulfilled?	Deuteronomy 18:22
Do the prophets only say what pleased the people?	Jeremiah 8:11; 14:13; 23:17; Ezekiel 13:10; Micah 3:5
Do the prophet draw people away from God?	Deuteronomy 13:1-3
What is the prophet's moral character?	Jeremiah 8:10; 14:14; 23:14; Isaiah 28:7
Do other Spirit-led people discern authenticity in the prophet?	1Kings 22:7

NEW TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVE

Warning of false teachings in the New Testament

- Be aware of wolves in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15)
- End time deception (Matthew 24:5; 24:11-13; 24:23-27; Mark 13:22-23)
- Spoiled through vain philosophy and deceit (Colossians 2:8)
- Teachers without understanding (1 Timothy 1:3-7)
- Seducing spirits and demonic doctrines (1 Timothy 4:1-3)
- Merchandising the Gospel for gain (2 Peter 2)



NEW TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVE

Warning of false teachings in the New Testament

- Engaging in foolish discussions (2 Timothy 2:16-18)
- Ignoring Sound Doctrine (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
- There are many antichrists (1 John 2:18-19)
- Do not believe ever spirit (1 John 4:1-3)
- Recognizing deceivers (2 John 1:7-11)
- Distorting the grace of God (Jude 1:3-4)



DANGEROUS DOCTRINES TO BE AWARE OF

- The Doctrine of Prosperity / Sowing a Seed The focus of the prosperity gospel is more about how a person can use God to his/her own advantage for money, rather than how the individual can be humbly used by God whether he/she is rich or poor.
- Word of Faith Teaching that faith is a "force" which can be used to get or achieve whatever you desire.
- <u>Spiritual Covering</u> Teaches that your leader, your pastor, your prophet or your apostle is a human "spiritual covering" over your life or the personal affairs of your life. Without your human spiritual covering, whatever you do will not be blessed by God unless it has the endorsement of your particular human spiritual covering.



DANGEROUS DOCTRINES TO BE AWARE OF

- Hyper-Grace The false belief that because God's grace exists, then there are no moral laws which God expects Christians to obey. The belief is that a Christian can willfully and rebelliously live a lifestyle of lying, cheating, sexual immorality and all sorts of sins, and still call him/herself a "Christian".
- Social Gospel/Social Justice The focus is social issues (poverty, racism, wealth redistribution, world peace) than eternal salvation of our souls
- <u>Gnosticism</u> Gnostic Christians claimed to have access to 'secret knowledge' about the nature of the universe, the nature of Christ, and what his appearance on earth meant to believers.



FALSE TEACHERS & DOCTRINE

PART 2 - CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 1:3

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THE BOOK OF JUDE

- Who was Jude the half brother of Jesus (John 7:1-5)
- The Theme **Apostasy** or to turn from God to false teachers
- To Contend to struggle or to assert something as a position or an argument
 - Is your faith worth contending for?
 - Are the fundamental things you hold to be true worth dying for?



WHERE IS FAITH ATTACKED FROM (JUDE 1:4)

From within the church

- Jeremiah 5:31; 14:14
- Lamentations 2:14
- Matthew 7:15
- Matthew 24:11
- Matthew 24:24

- Mark 13:22
- Luke 6:26
- Acts 20:29-30
- 2 Peter 2:1
- 1 John 4:1



MISUSE OF GRACE (JUDE 1:4-7)

- Danger of using God's grace as a license to sin
 - Unbelieving Jews who God delivered from Egypt
 - Fallen Angels
 - Sodom and Gomorrah



FALSE PROPHETS/TEACHERS

(JUDE 1:8-13)

Uncontrolled Imagination

- Defile the flesh
- Despise dominion
- Speak evil of dignities (heavenly beings)

Characteristics of False prophets/teachers

- The way of Cain (Gen: 4
 - Earn God's favor by works, not by faith
- The error of Balaam (Revelations 2:14)
 - Enticed the Israelites to sin so that they are food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality.
- The gainsaying of Core (Korah) (Numbers 16:1-4)
 - Numbers 16:1–40 indicates that **Korah rebelled against Moses** along with 249 coconspirators and were punished for their rebellion when God sent fire from heaven to consume all 250 of them.



PREPARE FOR CONTENDING (JUDE 1:8-13)

- Be one of the beloved
- Build yourself up in holy faith
- Pray in the Holy Spirit
- Keep yourselves in the love of God
- Wait for the Mercy



WHY CONTEND

(JUDE 1:22-23)

- To convince some who doubt
- Snatch some from the fire
- Have mercy on some... with fear
- Hate sin... love the sinner



IT'S FOR GOD'S GLORY (V24-25)

- God's assurance from falling for false prophets/teachers
- Be presented faultless
- •Our reasonable response to God should be:
 - Glory
 - Majesty
 - Dominion
 - Power

