Whose Teachings Do You Follow

This tract has been created to introduce those who are searching for truth set forth in God's word, and not based on the traditions of men and pagan religions.

As children of God, we must look for truth in what the scriptures teach us. There are many Churches with similar teachings; but there is only one set of teachings. Only the Bible can show us what they are and how to find them. Jesus warns us that not all who think they are doing service to God will be saved.

Matthew 7:21

Verse 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

To learn what God's will is we must look to the scriptures. We must also be careful not to fall into the thinking that we can create our own doctrines. This is what Jesus has to say about that.

Matthew 15:9

Verse 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

These are the words of Jesus, that those who want to create doctrines from their own commandments are worshipping him in vain.

We are to follow those of Berea.

Acts 17:11

Verse 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

It is good to listen but you must then search the scriptures to see if what you have been told is correct by God's word. Listen to the words of the apostle Paul to Timothy.

I Timothy 4:1, 6, 16

Verse 1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Verse 6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

Verse 16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

Do we truly follow the doctrines set forth by Jesus and his Apostles. Jesus kept the seventh day Sabbath, and his apostles did. We are told that all nations will keep the Sabbath in the new earth. Why do the churches not keep it now, and in fact they teach to keep the wrong day.

Isaiah 66:23

Verse 23 And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

The Apostle Peter warns us of false teachers that will deny the Lord and to deny his teachings is to deny him. II Peter 2:1, 2

Verse 1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Verse 2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

Matthew also warns us about false prophets, and much of what he tells us we see happening in our world today. Endless discontent with everyone.

Matthew 24:10-13

Verse 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

Verse 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Verse 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Verse 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Luke tells us that some within our own ranks will speak perverse things.

Acts 20:30

Verse 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Let us look at what John tells us in the book of Revelation.

Revelation 19:20

Verse 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

There is deception happening in every aspect of the world and that includes false teaching in the churches. What is our defense against false teachings?

II John 1:9, 10

Verse 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

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

Acts 17:11

Verse 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Acts 2:42

Verse 42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Jesus tells us that his doctrine is not his but his who sent him.

Who has the authority to change God the Fathers doctrines, no one.

John 7:16

Verse 16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

Deuteronomy 12:32

Verse 32 What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Proverbs 30:6

Verse 6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

We are warned not to add to or take away from God's word. Let us take a look at one more that speaks to this about a specific book in the Bible.

Revelation 22:18, 19

Verse 18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

Verse 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

This book is also the book that tells us we are the people that keep the commandments, testimony and the faith of Jesus the Christ.

Revelation 12:17

Verse 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:12

Verse 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

If one should error while serving God, Paul shows us how we are to deal with it.

Galatians 2:12-14

Verse 12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

Verse 13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.

Verse 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before *them* all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

We are to bring the world the true scriptures, and if they will not hear the truth, we are to follow scriptures on that as well.

Matthew 10:14

Verse 14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

We must remember the words of Paul about the body.

Ephesians 4:4, 5

Verse 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

Verse 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

How important are the teachings or doctrines?

Titus 2:10

Verse 10 Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

Philippians 4:9

Verse 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

I Timothy 4:13

Verse 13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

We have only one teacher, the Bible, which reveals to us the message sent since the days of the Prophets, with Jesus and his Apostles. If you truly believe, then the teachings you must search for are those from scriptures only. Galatians 1:8, 9

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

I Timothy 6:3-5

Verse 3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

Verse 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

Verse 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

Dear reader, let us finish with sound doctrine.

Hebrews 13: 8, 9

Verse 8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Verse 9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For *it is* a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Matthew 5:18

Verse 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

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