

SOUND DOCTRINE

"1 I charge thee in the sight of God, and of Christ Jesus, who shall judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be urgent in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, turn aside unto fables," II Tim. 4:1-4. I am interested in the expression: **"SOUND DOCTRINE."** The very fact that **"sound doctrine"** is stated, the opposite of that is **"unsound doctrine!"** So, there is **"sound doctrine"** and there is **"unsound doctrine."** For every positive stated there is an opposite: Truth, falsehood; Light, darkness; Righteousness, sin; Life, death; Jesus, Devil; Believer, unbeliever; Heaven, hell; Narrow way, broad way; etc. **For every truth stated there is an opposite, which is not true!** A clear distinction must be made between the two!

Paul says to Timothy: *"the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine,"* v. 3. Then in v. 4 he says, *"will turn away their ears from the truth."* Now, I understand the **"truth"** is he **same** as **"sound doctrine!"** The two are **equal**. When I think of **"sound doctrine"** I think of **"truth!"** Consider a passage in Jno. 17:17: *"17 Sanctify them in truth, thy word is truth."* The Word is truth, the truth is the word and the word is sound doctrine; so, all this being said about the **Word of God!** There is **"truth,"** so, there is the **"Word of God;"** thus, we have **"sound doctrine."** Timothy is being instructed to **abide** in the **"Word of God!"**

In II Tim. 1:13, it is stated: *"13 Hold the pattern of sound words which thou hast heard from me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.."* There is such a thing as "sound doctrine," "truth," "the word," and "sound words," this all sums up to be **"the way,"** Jno. 14:6. God does not have many ways; but, is quite clear, **there is only one way!** This is what the world does not want. They know the revealed word does not include them; so, it is necessary to change the word, truth, sound doctrine, and pray for mercy. They do not realize that with an attitude like this, **there is no way they can be accepted!** Matt. 7:21-23, *"21 Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."*

All of this, **"sound words," "the word," "truth,"** and **"sound doctrine"** is said to be **"the pattern,"** II Tim. 1:13. A pattern is a blueprint; or, a standard that must be followed. Moses was warned, *"5 See. Saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern that was showed thee in the mount,"* Heb. 8:5; Ex.25:40. Noah was not allowed to stray from the pattern, given for the building of the ark, Gen. 6. Nadab and Abihu, (Lev. 10), could not stray from the pattern. God has shown us the "pattern" in the New Testament, II Tim. 1:13 – **we, in the New Testament, cannot stray from the pattern of Christ's law,** *"2 Bear ye one another's burden, and so fulfil the law of Christ,"* Gal. 6:2. We are under "law" – these laws cannot be aborted. It is our way or the Lord's way – **I chose the Lord's Way!**

Often we hear: *"My way," "Your way," "our way" the Lord said, "6 I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me,"* Jno. 14:6. All one has to do, to settle the problem of which way? is to ask, *"How many Christs are there?"* The answer can only be one Christ. That being so, **there is only one way!** That being so, there is only one truth! That being so there is only one life! Jesus, said: *"24 for except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins,"* Jno. 8:24. It is only in Christ that a person has the remission of his sins, none other! There is no other alternative. Let the world scream to high heaven; but, only Christ has told the truth. *"4 God forbid: yea, let God be found true, but every man a liar,"* Rom. 3:2.

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