

“The Disciple’s Growth in Discernment”

pt. 23 — Philippians 3:17-19

To Live is Christ

INTRODUCTION

- truth that slides into compromise...

1. *Discern what is true* (3:17)

“Hard are the ways of truth, and rough to walk.”

— *John Milton*

“Right is right, even if everyone is against it, and wrong is wrong, even if everyone is for it.”

— *William Penn*

2. *Avoid what is false* (3:18-19)

- identity of false teachers
2 Cor. 11:13-15
- warning to beware of false teachers
Mt. 7:15; 24:4-5; 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Pet. 2:1-3; Acts 20:28-31
- their disposition
 - adding to the gospel
 - subtracting from the gospel
 - substituting for the gospel



Emmanuel Bible Notes

October 20, 2002 • Pastor Rob Martini

- their doom
 - their end:
Mt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:8-9
 - their god:
Jude 3-4
 - their shame:
Isa. 5:20
 - their mind-set:
Jms. 4:4; 1 Jn. 2:15

APPLICATION

1. To discern truth, we must grow in our knowledge of truth.
2 Tim. 3:16-17

- a. Don't neglect *the Book*

“Let me be *homo unius libri*” (a man of one Book).

— *John Wesley*

- b. Don't neglect books

“There is rugged terrain ahead for those who are constitutionally incapable of referring to the paths marked out by wise and spirit-filled cartographers over the centuries.”

— *Larry Woiwode*

- c. Read the best books

“It is not the reading of many books which is necessary to make one wise, but the well-reading of a few, could they be sure to have the best.”

— *Richard Baxter*

2. To discern truth, we must humbly seek the God of truth.

Jn. 16:13

2 Tim. 2:15; Prov. 3:5-6

...solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. (Heb. 5:14)