

*Edgemont Bible Church*  
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*1 Timothy 6:3-5*

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Intro: In recent years, the fear of plague-like fallout became real in the US, because people came here from foreign countries infected with the Ebola virus. It seems that our Dr. s were prepared because of "Pathology." Pathology is the study of the essential nature of diseases and especially of the structural and functional changes produced by them. A "Pathologist" then is one who interprets and diagnoses the changes caused by disease in tissues and body fluids. Because of them, Dr. s were able to develop a treatment that prevented the disease from becoming a plague here. When it comes to Bible teaching, we all need to become Pathologist.

XXI. The Pathology of False Teachers

A. The Mark of False Teachers - vs 3

1. If .....

- a. 1st class cond. statement - assumes reality (if there is, (and there is))
- b. there were already some carrying the disease of false teaching in Ephesus - 1 Tim 1:3-4, 6-7, 20; 4:1-5

2. Any man

- a. Paul didn't want to limit his warning to any specific teacher or teaching
- b. a generic warning embracing all false teaching

3. What they affirm - teach otherwise

- a. **heterodidaskaleo** - to instruct differently:--teach other doctrine(-wise).
- b. compound word from **Heteros** (other) and **didaskaleo** (to teach)
- c. refers to any teaching that contradicts God's revelation in Scripture

- i. it may take the form of denying God's existence
- ii. It may teach error about His attributes or nature
- iii. It may deny the triune Godhead
- iv. Error about Christ's person and work is common

- His virgin Birth
- His sinless perfection
- His substitutionary death
- His bodily resurrection
- His future return

v. Error about the person and work of the Holy Spirit

vi. False teaching denying the inspiration, authority, or inerrancy of Scripture

- demonstrated in a system of thinking that says you must live a certain way in order to be accepted by God
- demonstrated in a system of thinking that says you have liberty in Christ, it doesn't matter how you live

d. in order to spot false teaching, one must know the truth - 1 Jo 2:14

- i. Paul reminded the Ephesian elders to diagnose and deal with error

- Acts 20:27-32

ii. He pointed out that the way to deal with error is through the word of God:- Eph 6:17 - the sword of the Spirit,

#### 4. What they deny

##### a. and consent not

i. **proserchomai** - to approach, come near, visit, assent to, consent, draw near, go (near, to, unto).

ii. Present tense, so they are in a continuous state of not agreeing with sound words

##### b. wholesome words

i. **hugiaino** - to have sound health, be well (in body); to be uncorrupt (true in doctrine), (be) whole(-some).

ii. Where we get the word hygiene

iii. An example of sound words the deny

- even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ,

-more than just red letter edition - quotes

-encompasses His message revealed in scripture - the word of Christ - Col 3;16

- to the doctrine which is according to godliness

-the test of any teaching is will it produce godliness?

-**eusebeia** - piety; godliness, holiness.

-**Mt 7:15-20**

iv. false teachers are characterized by sin - **2 Pet 2:10-22; Jd 4,8-16**

#### B. The Attitude of False Teachers - vs 4a

1. He is proud - it takes an immense ego to put oneself in the place as judge of the Bible

2. **tuphoo** - to envelop with smoke, to inflate with self-conceit:--high-minded, be lifted up with pride, be proud.

a. where we get, blowing smoke or full of hot air

b. implies arrogance

i. setting one's own teaching as superior to the Bible

ii. Col 2:18 vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

#### C. The Mentality of False Teachers - vs 4b

1. knowing nothing **Ro 1:22; 1 Co 2:9-16; Jas 3:15**

2. but doting about

a. questions

i. **zetesis** - a searching, a dispute or its theme:--question.

ii. Refers to idle speculation - "what if?"

b. and strifes of words,

i. **logomachia** - disputation about trifles:--strife of words.

ii. Quibbling over terminology - pseudo intellectual theorizing rather than productive study and submission to the word of God

- was everything made in 6 literal days?
- attack on authorship based on higher criticism

D. The Effects of False Teachers - vs 4c-5a

1. all teaching produces fruit - eg. good teaching produces godliness
2. whereof cometh - bad teaching does not produce unity, but...
  - a. envy - inward discontent w/ advantages enjoyed by others
  - b. strife - often manifests itself in
    - i. railings - abusive speech consisting of
    - ii. evil surmisings - to ascribe evil motives to someone
  - c. The net result of false teaching is constant friction or perverse disputings

E. The Cause of False Teachers - vs 5b

1. external cause of false teaching is satanic deception
2. internal cause is "men of corrupt minds"
  - a. Ro 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. - Ro 1:28; 1 Co 2:14
  - b. such a mind does not function normally in the spiritual realm

F. The Condition of False Teachers - vs 5c

1. false teachers are in a state of apostasy
2. destitute of the truth,
  - a. **apostereo** - to despoil:--defraud, destitute, kept back by fraud.
  - b. passive voice indicates someone or something pulled them away from the truth
    - i. Heb 6:4-6
    - ii. 2 Tim 2:18; 3:7-8
  - c. they are heading for judgment - 2 Pet 2:1,4-9; Heb 10:26-31; Jd 4,15

G. The Motive of False Teachers - vs 5d

1. supposing that godliness - obviously used sarcastically here since their doctrine could not produce that
2. is gain - it is always about the money
  - a. unlike Paul - Ac 20:33 I have coveted no man's silver, gold, apparel.
  - b. not greedy of filthy lucre - 1Ti 3:3c
  - c. Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; - 2Pe 2:15
  - d. Simon the sorcerer - Ac 8:18-23

H. from such withdraw thyself.

1. The Church must be on the lookout for such false teachers
2. **aphistemi** - to remove, i.e. (actively) instigate to revolt; to desist, desert, etc.:--depart, draw (fall) away, refrain, withdraw self.