
1. 3 John 3-4, 2 Timothy 2:15-18, James 5:19-20:

- a. "To err is human", but James wrote, that for a Christian to err from the truth is very dangerous to the soul. The Apostle John rejoiced to hear about those who were walking in the truth, Paul lamented those (2) men who had erred from the truth. Every one of us must watch against erring from the truth!
 - i. Solomon wrote: "Buy the truth, (own and possess it) and sell it not; (or never neglect it) also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding."
- b. James teaches us what SHOULD happen, "IF any of you or I do err from the truth!" God intends to use you as His instrument(s) to help a brother or sister in Christ who has gone astray and erred from the truth!
- c. One caveat: I do not think James was talking about a small doctrinal difference of opinion on a passage of no eternal consequences, but he was writing about erring or straying from a foundational doctrine of the faith into a damnable heresy. 2 Peter 2:1-2, 1 Timothy 1:18-20, 6:20-21
- d. Is this one that has erred from the truth lost or saved? It seems that he or she is at least a "Professing Christian" because James wrote:
 - i. "IF any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him".

2. FIRST: To err from the truth is to go astray and wander from the truth of God's Word and the gospel of your salvation!

- a. The Lord Jesus warned us about the dangers of being led astray and deceived by false teachers in these last days, don't think that it can't happen to you!
 - i. Matthew 24:1-5, 11-13, 24-28, 2 Corinthians 11:1-4, 13:15, 2 Peter 3:13-18, Proverbs 19:27. This is why it is SO important for you to STUDY, KNOW, BELIEVE what you know! Colossians 1:21-23
- b. But now to what God has called each of us to do IF the need arises, TO CONVERT ONE who has erred or gone astray from the truth. This word "CONVERT" literally means to cause to return or to turn about the one who has erred from the error of his way And BACK TO THE TRUTH!
- c. Every one of you, children of God are called to THIS ministry of recovering, reclaiming, and converting those "among us" who may stray or err from the truth. This passage answers the question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Yes, you are! Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:22-25
 - i. But how do I DO THIS? How do I TURN my brother or sister from error, back to the truth? You must first be grounded in the Word, and then. Galatians 6:1, 2 Timothy 2:24-26, Psalm 141:5

3. James 5:20: James here encourages us to do this good work! Take courage child of God and consider how God will use you to help a straying brother or sister! Or in the case of a lost sinner, to turn them about from their sins to Christ!

- a. Look at the eternal worth, the profit, and the gain of this great work.... A soul will be saved from eternal death and damnation, and a multitude of sins will be covered. Think about that..... God WILL USE YOU and the love of Christ in you to recover/reclaim an erring saint, or to save a lost sinner!
- b. This work will happen "among us" (IF it is needed) if the love of Christ is in us and among us! 1 Peter 4:7-8
 - i. R. Stier: By His people, he works, for the continual putting away of multitudes of sins, saving one soul after another from death. This is the work of love which His Holy Spirit shed abroad in the hearts of believers. May this love never fail!