

I. **Commitment to Sound Doctrine:** 3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith.

A. Purpose of Timothy's presence in Ephesus

1. To _____ -> To _____ a _____
2. To _____ -> to _____ any other _____ that might be taught

B. What doctrines might have been taught in opposition to _____ doctrine?

1. _____ doctrine of works- Pharisaic doctrine of _____ to the legalities of scripture.

a. Main issue- purpose is to _____ a _____ by God to the practitioner

b. God _____ them because they did a,b,c,....

i. Ceremonial washing, circumcision, synagogue, Sabbath restrictions etc.

2. _____ of knowledge as being the ultimate illumination.

a. distinguished by claims to obscure and mystical knowledge, and emphasizing _____ rather than _____

b. Primarily a late 2nd early 3rd century issue but could have been part of the problem.

3. Return to paganism.

a. Ephesus- Under the rule of King Croesus of Lydia, construction of the great _____ of _____ at Ephesus was begun, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The defeat of Croesus by Cyrus, the King of Persia, brought the whole of Anatolia under Persian rule. (From www.ancient.eu/ephesos/)

b. Ephesus remained under Persian rule until liberated by Alexander the Great in 334 BCE. Upon entering Ephesus and seeing the reconstruction of the Temple of Artemis not yet complete, Alexander offered to rebuild it. The Ephesians, however, refused his offer, claiming it was not seemly for one god to build a temple to another. (From www.ancient.eu/ephesos/)

c. In 129 BCE the Roman Empire acquired Ephesus according to the will left by Attalos, King of Pergamon, by which they were bequeathed his kingdom. (From www.ancient.eu/ephesos/)

d.

e. Acts ____: ____ - ____ (NKJV Strong's,) For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. 25 He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. 26 Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. 27 So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." 28 Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"

C. What _____ should be taught-> Eph 1:3-14

1. _____ must be considered to provide context as that is where Paul is writing to Timothy. The issues while applicable to all ministries are centered in _____ contextual issues.

2. Ephesians 1:3-14 Paul's _____ to Ephesus

a. Jesus Christ as _____, living fully in mankind's weaknesses, living a perfectly sinless life, Dying accused of what He never did, fulfilling the totality of OT Prophecy, Being buried, Rising the 3rd day with no intervention or involvement of any other, being seen by and ministering to witnesses who testified about Him, Ascending to heaven to wait for the command to return, sending the Holy Spirit to minister in His place

II. **Purpose of the Law in establishing Sound Doctrine:** 5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, 6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

A. Paul here is citing _____

1. Love from a pure heart: Matthew 22:37-40 (NKJV Strong's,) " 'You shall _____ with all your _____, with all your _____, and with all your _____.' ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang _____."

2. A good conscience: Romans 2:12-16 (NKJV Strong's,) For as many as have _____ without law will also _____ without law, and as many as have _____ in the law will be _____ by the law ¹³ (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; ¹⁴ for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, ¹⁵ who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) ¹⁶ in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

3. Sincere faith: Ephesians 2:8-13 (NKJV Strong's,) For by _____ you have been _____ through _____, and that not of yourselves; it is the _____ of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, _____ in Christ Jesus for _____, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. ¹¹ Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— ¹² that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

III. **The Condemnation in the Law:** 8 But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, 9 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

A. _____ use of the law

1. The law points out _____ and _____.

a. Paul says that the law is for the _____ to remind them and inform them of their _____ nature.

b. Example: The law says you will have no other Gods but Me. Therefore, if someone worships, reveres, serves, or places preferential attention to another thing (person, thing, idol, job, income, etc) then that person has broken the law by establishing for himself another god.

B. The Law as it aids in delineating _____ : Verses 10-11 "if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust."

1. Paul has given an extensive list of what would be considered _____ sins, but we cannot treat that list as exclusive and complete. His final statements in 10 and 11 leave the door open for any failure of character, will, mind, body, etc.

2. His "any other thing contrary to sound doctrine" has been left out of _____ on _____ issues. _____ and _____ correctness has been substituted for an _____ of scripture.

a. The _____ for _____ model is critical in the removal of the authority of doctrinal teaching

b. Denominations have abandoned even the doctrine that Paul himself is perfectly clear about by condoning the open blatant unrepentant homosexuality not just of the membership but of the clergy!!

c. How would an openly lesbian priest measure up against the teaching that Paul has left in Ephesus and is commissioning Timothy to authoritatively administer??