

“DOCTRINES OF DEMONS” (1Tim. 4:1-2; 2Tim. 4:1-5)

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INTRO: Paul warned against giving in to doctrines of demons in 1Tim. 4:1-2. The antidote for doctrines of demons is the uncompromising preaching of God’s Word, that includes convincing, rebuking and exhorting (2Tim. 4:1-5). Many people only listen to teachers who tell them what they want to hear rather than what they need to hear.

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF DOCTRINES OF DEMONS

1. They are teachings inspired by demonic forces (1Tim. 4:1).
2. They don’t self-identify as doctrines of demons.
3. They contain lies and deception (1Tim. 4:1)
4. They are carefully and intentionally worded and defended to sound right (2Pet. 2:1, 3).
5. They contradict God’s Word (Gen. 3:1-4).
6. They produce bad fruit (Matt. 7:17-20).
7. They not only try to infiltrate culture, but also the church (Acts 20:29-30; 2Pet. 2:1, 3).
8. They deny that Jesus Christ as come in the flesh (2Pet. 2:1; 1Jn. 4:2-3; 2Jn. 1:7).

II. DOCTRINES OF DEMONS IN SCRIPTURE

1. The traditions of men (Matt. 15:6, 9).
2. The doctrine of the Pharisees & Sadducees (Matt. 16:6, 12).
3. Deceitful winds of doctrine (Eph. 2:14-15; Heb. 13:9).
4. Denying Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh (2Jn. 1:7, 10-11).
5. The doctrine of Balaam (Rev. 2:14).
6. The doctrine of the Nicolaitans (Rev. 2:15).
7. The doctrine of Jezebel (Rev. 2:20, 24).

III. HOW TO IDENTIFY & COUNTER DOCTRINES OF DEMONS

1. Regularly study the Scriptures with an open hungry heart and learn to rightly divide the Word of truth (2Tim. 3:16-17; 2Tim. 2:15).
2. Develop a consist, meaningful, effective prayer life.
3. Pray for discernment.
4. Examine the fruit of the doctrine (Matt. 7:17-20).
5. Speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:14-15).
6. Stay connected and accountable to a Bible-believing community of believers (Eph. 4:16).

CONCLUSION: Paul warned against Doctrines of Demons in 1Tim. 4:1-2. These doctrines have infiltrated our current culture, and even much of the church. The antidote is to shine the light of the truth of God’s Word into the darkness. Next Sunday we will look at a few contemporary Doctrines of Demons and Scriptures which contradict those doctrines.