

## ***Test All Things, Hold Fast To What Is Good***

I Thess. 5:21

### ➤ **The Instruction...**

- **20** Do not treat prophecies with contempt. **21** But examine all things; hold fast to what is good. **22** Stay away from every form of evil. (I Thess. 5:20-21 –NET)
- **11** These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. (Acts 17:11-- KJV)

### ➤ **Teachings To The Test...**

#### ➤ The notion that asserts: The Bible is just another book – the product of mere man and his thinking and is reflective of the culture in which he lived. Is not really relevant for us today.

- I Thess. 1:13 → 13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. (cf. Acts 17:1-4)
- II Tim. 3:16-17 → 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- II Pet. 1:16-21 → 16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ...
- 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.
- 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation (ever comes about by the prophet's own imagination –NET).
- 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

#### ➤ The False Teaching Identified As: The prosperity gospel.

- I Thess. 1:6 → And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:
- I Thess. 3:2-4 → 2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellow labourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: 3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.
- I Tim. 6:5 → Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.
- 2Pe 2:3 → 3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.
- Matt. 5:10-12 → 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
- 2Tim. 3:12 → 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
- 2Ti 4:20 → 20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. (cf. II Cor. 11:16-29; 12:5-10)

#### ➤ The False Teaching that denies the necessity of holy living: Claims the impossibility of apostasy, promotes liberty as license to sin.

- Rom 6:1 → 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? (6:2-11)
- Gal 5:13 → 13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. (5:19-21)

- Gal 5:4 → 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.
- I Thess. 4:1-8 → 1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more...3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. 8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.
- Heb. 12:14 → 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:
- False teachings about the Second Coming of Christ:
  - “The Rapture”
    - I Thess. 4:16-17 → 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
  - The time--
    - I Thess. 5:2,4 → 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. ... 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
  - Denial of eternal punishment:
    - I Thess. 5:8-9 → 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,
    - II Thess. 1:7-9 → 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;
- The teaching that says man that there is nothing that one must do in order to be saved...it is all of God. (“Grace alone by faith alone”, etc.)
  - II Thess. 1:8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; (Heb. 5:8-9; Matt. 7:21-23; Mk. 16:15-16; Lk. 13:3; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38)