

The Character The Doctrine Of Christ



II John 7-11

II John 9-11



- ❧ II Jn. 9-11 → 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, *hath not God*. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he *hath both the Father and the Son*.
- ❧ 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:
- ❧ 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

Introduction



- ❧ “Doctrine” → teaching,
instruction, that which is taught.
- ❧ Word found 45 times in KJV (N.T.)
- ❧ Word found 14 times in ASV (N.T.)
There often translated as “teaching”.

Introduction



- ❧ The concept of “doctrine” misunderstood and minimized by many.
- ❧ Some seek to make a false distinction between “doctrine” and “gospel”, in order to expand the borders of fellowship and become more inclusive.
- ❧ Teach that the gospel contains just a few facts which are necessary to be believed to be saved and maintain fellowship.
- ❧ Teach that other matters (instrumental music, women preachers, pre-millennialism, frequency or day of Lord’s Supper, baptism, etc.) are matters of “doctrine” and not so important.

Introduction

❧ *The words “**doctrine**” and “**gospel**” are used synonymously in the New Testament:*



❧ **We are saved by...**

❧ Obedience to the gospel.

❧ 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. (Rom. 10:16)

❧ Obedience to doctrine.

❧ “... but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin... (Rom. 6:17-18)

❧ **Paul uses the words interchangeably in I Tim. 1:10-11.**

❧ 10 the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted. (ESV)

The Doctrine of Christ Is...



❧ *Crucial* → essential, of great importance, critical.

❧ To the foundation and growth of the early church. (Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42;)

❧ Being freed from sin and becoming a child of God. (Rom. 6:17-18)

❧ Remaining faithful as a Christian. (Rom. 16:17-18)

The Doctrine of Christ Is...



- ❧ **Credible** → True, accurate; offers grounds for being believed.
- ❧ Jesus presented many infallible proofs. (Acts 1:3; Rom. 1:3-4)
- ❧ Those who fail to acknowledge God – praise and honor Him – are without excuse. (Rom. 1:18-20)
- ❧ The message did not originate in the mind of men, but the mind of God. (I Cor. 2:9-13; Jn. 16:13)
- ❧ The word of God was confirmed by miracles. (Heb. 2:3-4; Jn. 11:47)

The Doctrine of Christ Is...



❧ **Confrontational and Controversial** → As it is proclaimed it meets sin and error head on, and is not always well-received.

❧ The message is to be proclaimed and defended. (Jude 3; I Pet. 3:15)

❧ In moral matters. (I Cor. 6:9-11; Matt. 15:19ff)

❧ In religious error. (Matt. 7:15; Acts 20:28-30)

❧ With a spirit of love and meekness. (II Tim. 2:24-25; Eph. 4:15)

The Doctrine of Christ Is...



- ❧ **Complete** → God is not adding to his word today, and neither should we.
- ❧ It contains all that pertains to life and godliness. (II Pet. 1:3)
- ❧ It furnishes us completely to every good work. (II Tim. 3:16-17; Eph. 2:10)
- ❧ It has been once for all time delivered. (Jude 3)
- ❧ It is to be proclaimed in its fullness. (II Tim. 4:1-4; Acts 20:27)

The Doctrine of Christ Is...



- ∞ **Comprehensible** → intelligible, capable of being understood.
- ∞ The teaching can be understood by those who seek, willing minds, and honest hearts. (Matt. 7:7; Jn. 7:17; Lk. 8:15)
- ∞ Does not require an official “church interpreter.” (Eph. 3:3-5)
- ∞ Understanding should lead to obedience. (I Jn. 5:3; Ps. 119:27,34)