

## ***Weathering Out the Winds of Doctrine***

February 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### ***Ephesians 4:14***

As Christians, we have a calling from God and course of life that we are to follow. God's Word is our compass to navigate through the storms of life while encountering waves of different teaching and doctrines which constantly try to move us off course.

***“...tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine...”***

❖ “This second verb [carried about] is translated more vividly by NEB ‘whirled about’; the Greek verb *peripherō* often has the idea of such violent swinging about as makes a person dizzy”!<sup>1</sup>

❖ Doubt is detrimental to stability.

📖 James 1:5-8

***“...by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes”***

❖ Satan, our adversary, is the one who is behind these deceitful schemes.

*1 Peter 5:8-9 “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.”*

*2 Corinthians 11:3 “But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”*

*2 Corinthians 11:13-15 “For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.”*

❖ We are growing and maturing in our ability to trust God and His Word so that we may no longer be children who are easily influenced into false doctrine and compromise!

📖 2 Timothy 3:12-15

📖 Colossians 1:21-23

**Today, Liberal Theology is one of the “winds of doctrine” that is carrying away some Christians.**

*Liberal Theology*: Personal experience determines truth rather than truth being determined by the inerrant Word of God.

❖ Liberal Theology denies absolute truth. Truth is something that is “felt” rather than “learned” through the teaching of God's Word.

📖 2 Peter 2:1-3

*Proverbs 16:25 “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”*

♦ Sound Doctrine is truth that is learned through the study of God's Word!

*John 8:31-32 “So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

*2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”*

- ❖ Liberal Theology promotes Universalism, the belief that everyone will be saved.  
 “A 1963 publication of the World Council of Churches made this assertion: ‘Indeed, the world is already a redeemed world so that, whether men discern their true condition or not, and even if they deny it, they are still the heirs of God's redemption.’”<sup>2</sup>
- ♦ Sound Doctrine teaches that all mankind is under the wrath of God! *Ephesians 2:1-3*  
*Matthew 10:28* “*And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*  
 📖 *2 Peter 2:4-10*  
*John 2:36* “*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*”
- ❖ Liberal Theology teaches moral relativism.  
 “Ethical Relativism is the belief that no absolute moral code exists, and therefore man must adjust his ethical standards in each situation according to his own judgment.”<sup>3</sup>
- ♦ Sound Doctrine teaches that God’s Word is our standard for moral choices.  
*Galatians 5:19-24; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Ephesians 5:3-6; Colossians 3:5-17*  
*Judges 21:25* “*In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*”  
 📖 *John 12:46-50*

The mature Christian not only “weathers out the winds of doctrine” and holds steady to God’s truths, but also looks for those who have wandered from the faith and brings them back!  
*“My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20*

Endnotes:

- <sup>1</sup> Foulkes, Francis. *The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians, an introduction and commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1963. Print. (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries)
- <sup>2</sup> Shibley, David. "Doctrine of Demons." *Ministry Today Magazine*. Charisma Media, 30 Apr. 2003. Web.
- <sup>3</sup> Noebel, David. *Understanding the Times: The Collision of Today's Competing Worldviews*. 2nd ed. Manitou Springs, CO: Summit Ministries, 2006. Print.
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