



# Titus Series - Part 1

## **A STUDY ON SOUND DOCTRINE**

Starla Smith

STUDY

# Sound Doctrine

*Writings compiled from  
the social media and  
Sunday2Monday.blog  
of Starla Smith*

*SUNDAY*  
*2Monday*  
**.blog**

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## Authors Notes

*This study came about when I was frustrated with myself and how distracted I had become with all that was going on in the world and in social media. I had been praying for God to help me. The scroll life had taken me over and I was addicted. I knew that I cannot do a change in “how I am” without Him. It won’t stick if He doesn’t do the work.*

*One August night, I awoke in the middle of the night and heard the Lord say, “When you wake up, come sit with me on the porch.” When I got up, I grabbed my coffee and my Bible and heading for the porch. As I sat there listening. He said, “You don’t have to stop using social media.” See, I had been beating myself up for a long while over my use of social media. Then He said, “You have to use it differently.” I understood this to mean the time I am spending online. Then He told me to turn to the book of Titus, chapter 2. I remember thinking - what does Titus 2 have to do with social media? As I read, I realized it wasn’t about social media. It was about what He wanted me to study, how to use my time and then share on social media.*

*In this study of Sound doctrine, we will look at all the main verses noting sound doctrine in Titus 1 and 2, leading us on an adventure through supporting verses in the books of Timothy and a few in the Proverbs as well. Let’s discover and uncover these truths together!*

*~Starla*

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But as for you, teach  
what accords with  
**sound doctrine.**

TITUS 2:1



# What is Sound Doctrine

When it comes to teaching our Christian faith, the idea of “sound doctrine” is crucial, kind of like the foundation of a house. This concept, highlighted in the New Testament books of Titus and Timothy, shows us just how important it is to keep our teachings pure and true, both for our church and our own lives. To really get why sound doctrine matters, we need to break down the terms “sound” and “doctrine” and see how Paul’s advice to Timothy and Titus applies to us today.

## What is Sound Doctrine?

“Sound” means something that’s healthy, correct, and solid—kind of like a sturdy piece of furniture that doesn’t wobble. “Doctrine,” on the other hand, means teaching or instruction. So, sound doctrine is teaching that’s not only correct and truthful but also beneficial for our spiritual health and stability. It’s teaching we can trust to be accurate and true to the gospel.

In his letter to Titus, Paul really drives home the need for sound doctrine. In Titus 1:9, he says that a teacher should stick to the trustworthy word and use it to teach sound doctrine and correct those who are teaching otherwise. The teacher's job isn’t just to teach but to defend the faith against false ideas. Paul is emphasizing the need to keep our teaching straight and to be ready to set things right when needed. Take note -- this means there are those who contradict it, those who oppose and teach not the trustworthy word.

Titus 2:1 backs this up by insisting that all teaching should align with sound doctrine. This means that what we teach, and how we teach it, should reflect sound principles ensuring that our lessons are both correct and impactful.

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in **sound doctrine** and also to rebuke those who contradict it. ”

TITUS 1:9

# Myths and Commandments

Paul addresses the danger of false teachings in Titus 1:13-14, urging a sharp rebuke of things like Jewish myths and human commands that stray from the truth. These verses highlight how harmful incorrect teachings can be and how they can pull people away from the gospel.

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This testimony is true.  
Therefore rebuke them  
sharply, that they may be  
**sound in the faith**, 14  
not devoting themselves  
to Jewish myths and the  
commands of people who  
turn away from the truth.

TITUS 1:13-14

These myths, in another version of scripture, use the word fables. Myths are generally noted as untrue stories, rumors, imaginary or even fictitious objects or individuals that are spoken of or passed down through word of mouth. These fables or fictitious narratives draw people away from the truth by their wild and imaginary claims. These myths, possibly even the use of turning scripture into allegory stories changed the meaning of scripture. Paul says don't do it.

Also, Paul mentions the commands of people as something that turns others away from truth. In the first book of Timothy, Paul gives us a glimpse of these commands.

**1 Timothy 4:3** They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

These commandments of men were nothing more than tradition passed down through the generations. Jesus even spoke of these things.

**Matthew 15:3** Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?”

Paul understood what was at stake here. He tells us in Acts a bit of his history and of his education.

**Acts 22:3** I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day.

Paul learned these commandments, the very commandments, that led him to persecute the church of Christ, from his education under Gamaliel. He called these the law of our fathers. One of those commandments (laws, traditions) was the commandment for Jews not to eat with the uncircumcised. But there is no such law from God. It is in the Oral Tradition of Jews passed down after they came out of Babylon. This was something Paul contended with and even confronted Peter to his face in the book of Galatians.

**Galatians 2:11-12** But when Cephas (Peter) came to



Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.

This circumcision situation was a big deal as we can see here in Acts.

Acts 15:1-2 And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." 2 Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.

You can read about the big meeting that happened called The Jerusalem Council in Acts 15: 1-29 where the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter.

It wasn't just a question of whether or not Jews could eat with uncircumcised Gentiles, but it was a question of salvation. Being sound in the faith meant making sure that this question was answered according to the truth and not according to myths or commandments of men.

Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, **sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.** <sup>3</sup> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good...

”

TITUS 2:2-3

# What we teach matters

In Titus 2:2-3, soundness extends beyond just teaching to the behavior of individual believers. Older men and women are encouraged to show soundness in their faith, love, and perseverance or steadfastness.

From these verses we can deduce a few things:

- Sound doctrine has to do with what we teach
- In how we instruct others.
- This soundness will be applied to our faith
- In how we love
- And in our ability to be steadfast

What and how we teach matters!

Paul is giving Titus an outline of what and how to teach the people of his church. Older men and older women are the backbone of the church. These people both support and serve among the body. Older people tend to be more routinized and set in their ways and younger people are much like butterflies, always out doing something, and on the move, working and raising a bustling family. Obviously, these characteristics are good for all, but he is pointing out that those who are older ought to be walking in these so that they are able to teach what is good.

Notice that this list of characteristics is not two completely separate lists. Paul uses the word likewise meaning *“in the same manner as.”* This means older men and women are both to be *“sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.”* These qualities are a kind of bedrock for living out sound doctrine, as these are those who will be passing down and teaching others how to live out this sound doctrine.

Let's define these first three words:

**Sober-minded** - is to have a clear and rational mindset. It also has the connotation of calmness; freedom from inordinate passions; habitual sobriety. This is someone who is able to stay levelheaded even in challenging or emotional situations.

**Dignified** - is to be a person who walks in honor and lives out excellence. They handle themselves with grace in both good times and challenging situations and treat others with respect and fairness.

**Self-controlled** - is to be a person who has restraint on their own self. It also means they are self - governed meaning they exercise control over their own actions, emotions, and decisions with a high degree of autonomy and discipline.

These are solid marks of maturity for those who teach sound doctrine.



# Faith, Love, Steadfastness

If we continue reading in Titus 2, verse 2 we come next to this phrasing, *“sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.”*

As we mentioned, sound in faith has to do with answering the question of salvation properly. The gospel message is simple - repentance and faith. It is simply to turn from your sin and accept the death of Christ on the cross, by faith, for the payment of your sin. That's it!

Paul even tells Ephesian elders in Acts 20 about his travels saying in Acts **20:20-21** **how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, 21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

This gospel of salvation is not by obedience. Not by works of the Law. Not by the commandments of men. He taught them the simple gospel. This is what makes up sound faith.

Next, we are to be sound in love. If we are going to do that, we must understand what love is and have a biblical definition of it. In the first book of John, he gives us an understanding of this biblical love.

**1 John 4:7-10 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

We can see that this love is directly related to that sound

faith we spoke of. That faith informs our understanding of love, knowing that God who is love, sent His Son Jesus in love to become our propitiation. That's a big word, so let's define it.

**Propitiation** - means atonement. One of the earliest records of this word in English is *propitiatorium* meaning "*the mercy seat, place of atonement*"

The mercy seat was the top, or the covering of the ark of the covenant. The place of propitiation was the place where the wrath of God was turned away from His people. This was the place where the priests of the Old Testament applied the blood of bulls and goats to pay for sin. But now, at the cross, Jesus became that payment. He is the mercy seat.

Love has a different definition when it is exemplified in the life of Jesus Christ. In first Corinthians we are given the expression of what love is.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. 6Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices in the truth. 7It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

And lastly, sound in steadfastness. To be steadfast is to be unshakable, fixed in purpose, as in firmly set in position. Jesus has given us a victory over sin that we could never do. There is an un-moveability to those who walk in sound doctrine because their faith is built on a solid foundation of the love of God and gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 15:57-58 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore,**

**my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.**

As those who are or will be (one day) the older men and women of the church. These are the sound foundations we stand on. Faith, Love, and Steadfastness in Christ.

# Sound In Speech

Titus 2:7-8 further emphasizes that our speech should be sound, reflecting our teaching and character. This sound speech is accompanied by each one of us walking in a way that models good works. This is displayed even as we are teaching those around us with integrity and dignity. This sound speech is absent of condemnation. Very interesting!

Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8 and **sound speech** that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

TITUS 2: 7-8

Paul tells Titus that there is a kind of speech that puts an opponent to shame because they have nothing evil to say about us as Christians. If we take a step back and think about all that we've discussed this far. This "opponent" is dealing with a mature person who is able to handle opposition and can control their emotional impulses. They treat the opposite person with dignity and respect and yet they are



unmoved or un-swayed by opposing thoughts of myth or commandments of men. They are sound in their speech - declaring the truth of the gospel full of faith, love, and steadfast in what they believe.

These kinds of Christians would be something to behold.

Paul encourages young Timothy to be a person like this saying to him in **1 Timothy 4:12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.**

This isn't just for the old but also the young. Paul often spoke of the way we speak, encouraging the people to be ready to give an answer.

**Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.**

Being a person of sound speech would mean that we would become students of the Word. What else do we have to answer with? It would mean that we would need to be serious about our use of language and not be flippant or profane with it. It would mean that we would need to study to know how to answer the arguments we might face in our day. It would mean that we would do regular maintenance and inventory of what we are believing because apparently it is quite easy to slip off into things God never asked of us and to start believing lies that are not true. None of us are immune but we all can become responsible in the way we speak.

## Authors Notes

*I hope that you are enjoying this study in Titus on Sound doctrine. We have look at some major themes:*

1. *Definition and Importance of Sound Doctrine:*  
*"Sound doctrine" means teaching that is healthy, accurate, and helps us grow spiritually. It's crucial to keep our teachings pure and true to ensure both personal and communal spiritual health.*
2. *Paul's Instruction to Titus:* *Paul stresses the need for sound doctrine in his letters to Titus. He highlights the role of those who teach and defending against false teachings, including myths and human commands that stray from the truth.*
3. *Impact on Christian Behavior:* *Sound doctrine affects more than just teaching. It should shape the behavior of believers, especially older men and women, who are called to live out principles like being sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, and showing faith, love, and steadfastness.*
4. *Sound Doctrine in Speech and Teaching:* *Christian speech and teaching should reflect sound doctrine, showing integrity and respect. Both young and older believers are encouraged to model this kind of speech and behavior.*
5. *Consequences of Deviating from Sound Doctrine:*  
*The essay warns that straying from sound doctrine, like following myths or human commands, can lead believers away from the true gospel and harm spiritual growth and unity in the church.*

*Now we will turn our attention to some supporting verse to get a deeper look at this topic of sound doctrine. In the books of Timothy, Paul addresses sound doctrine in a way that seems to come at 'why*

## Authors Notes

*living according to sound doctrine' is important, from a far more aggressive stance. In Titus, Paul drew on the positive qualities of sound doctrine to build the knowledge and understanding of the reader. Here, in Timothy we get a complete picture of what happens when teachers stray from sound doctrine. We will touch on themes of what happens when we live contrary to sound doctrine, listen to false teachers, how we must live a pattern of sound words, and a warning of how people will not endure sound teaching. Then we will pivot to some supporting verses in Proverbs.*

*~Starla*

understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, 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.

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1 TIMOTHY 1: 9-11

# Sound Doctrine in Timothy

Paul's letters to Timothy also give us more insight into and seems to take a flipside approach to explaining sound doctrine. In 1 Timothy 1:9-11, he lists behaviors that go against sound doctrine, like murder and dishonesty, even sexuality which is a hot button topic of our day. Yet, scripture is scripture. We don't change the trustworthy word. Rather, we change to align with it. These verses show that sound doctrine isn't just about right teaching but also about living a life that's aligned with godliness and shuns wickedness.

This also makes it very clear that we as Christians will have to face and decide what we will believe and align with truth when "*whatever else*" comes our way that is contrary to sound doctrine.

**Contrary** means opposite, opposed, and even extremely unlike.

Paul is saying to Timothy that he will face and have to contend with things that are opposite the truth, with those who will oppose the truth, and he will encounter things that are extremely unlike the truth. He was writing to Timothy while in a Roman prison for speaking the truth. Timothy was serving as pastor at the church in Ephesus and Paul eagerly encouraging him to keep a faithful witness.

**1 Timothy 1:3-4** As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, 4 nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.

Apparently, Titus and Timothy were dealing with a great deal of similarities.



In the book of Romans, Paul laid out a full dissertation of this in the very first chapter of what happens when we as humans deny the truth and walk our own way. It is not pretty.

**Romans 1: 28-32** And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

In fact, Paul spends the first 3 chapters of Romans explaining what happened, what the consequences of that are, how we tried to get our own righteousness and finally in 4, 5, and 6 he explains the remedy of faith that started with Abraham and was completed through Christ Jesus.

**Romans 5:1-2** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Sound doctrine isn't just turning toward right things, it is also shunning and turning away from the wrong things.

# False Teaching

In 1 Timothy 6:2b-5, Paul contrasts sound doctrine with false teachings. He warns against those who deviate from Jesus' words, describing these who deviate as conceited and ignorant. Such folks stir up controversy and division, which can hurt the unity and health of the church. This passage makes it clear that sound doctrine means sticking to Jesus' teachings and promoting godliness rather than self-interest.

Teach and urge these things. <sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with **the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness**, <sup>4</sup> he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup> and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

1 TIMOTHY 6:2B-5

There is so much to unpack in this one little section of scripture. But first thing, this tells us where sound doctrine comes from (where Titus said, *"to hold firm to the trustworthy word"*) Paul comes right out with it to Timothy saying, *"the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness."* The Bible is very good at laying truth upon truth, so that we are able to have a solid foundation

for our teaching. Sound doctrine comes from the trustworthy words of Jesus. Paul tells Timothy that those who teach a different doctrine are those that do not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords (or has agreement) with godliness.

An interesting note: 15 times the New Testament mentions godliness and 10 of them are in Timothy and 1 of them is in Titus. In first Timothy 3, Paul speaks of a mystery of godliness and how this godliness came to us in the package called Jesus Christ in the flesh.

Now those who teach a different doctrine Paul describes as: *puffed up with conceit and understanding nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.*

Wow! That's very direct. Depraved in mind and deprived of the truth. Paul gives us an example of this in **2 Timothy 3:7-8** saying, **“always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.** The scholar and theologian Matthew Henry would describe these two men as *“having the spirit of error”* in his commentary of this verse.

The exhortation for us it seems, is that if we are not careful, we too can walk off into untruth leading to all manner of evil, full of pride, and not understanding anything worth knowing. Sadly, that is a common thing these days. Many people are running after silly things on social media and what does it get us? An unhealthy craving for controversy! Just as the scripture says. We end up wasting our time having quarrels over words which only produce the

outcomes that Paul clearly laid out for Timothy. Paul urges Timothy to keep good doctrine before the people and to be trained by the words of faith.

**1 Timothy 4:6-8** If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. **7** Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; **8** for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

He urges *“have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths, rather train yourself for godliness.”* Training has to do with habitual ways of walking, doing, and strengthening.

Paul is saying, *“Practice this faith”* because you are going to need to be strong in it.

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which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. 13

**Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard**

**from me,** in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

2 TIMOTHY 1: 12-14

# The Pattern

In 2 Timothy, Paul continues to stress the importance of sound doctrine. In 2 Timothy 1:12-14, he encourages Timothy to follow the pattern of sound words and to guard the good deposit entrusted to him. This shows that sound doctrine is crucial for keeping our faith and love in Christ strong. Following sound doctrine might even lead to difficulties, as Paul himself experienced.

In the last section, we saw that Paul encouraged Timothy to practice his faith by being trained by godliness. This is very similar to what Paul says here, “follow the pattern of sound words you have heard from me.” What does this phrasing “pattern of sound words” mean? It seems to indicate that there is a way to teach that we must follow. Let’s unpack some of those ways:

1. **Faithfulness to the Gospel:** What we teach must be aligned with the Gospel, repentance and belief in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. **Sound Doctrine:** These teachings need to be based on the truth of Scripture and not influenced by false teachings, myths or commandments of men.
3. **Consistency:** What we teach will be consistent with what has been taught by the apostles and early church leaders, as Paul said, *“follow ...that you have heard from me.”*
4. **Practical Application:** These teachings ought to inform our daily life, guiding us in how to live out our faith in practical ways.
5. **Love and Faith:** Everything is to be rooted in love and faith in Christ Jesus, reflecting the character and heart of God.

We have seen this pattern of teaching develop as we have been studying. It is clear that the scripture bears this way of



teaching and living out. This pattern helps us - as we will face what Paul called suffering for our faith. It is very difficult to function when we are suffering. Just like when you sew a new garment, you will follow a pattern, so that you create another garment that it in the same pattern. That is what this pattern of sound words does for us. When we live this way, even when it is hard and suffering comes, we will walk with integrity, love, and faith. Just as Paul says, *“I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.”*

Some of the difficulties we will encounter are the same that Paul was speaking to Timothy about. 2 Timothy 4:2-4 gives us a heads-up about future challenges to sound doctrine.

”

preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 3 For the time is coming when **people will not endure sound teaching**, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.  
2 TIMOTHY 4: 2-4

Paul predicts that people will turn away from sound teaching in favor of what suits their desires, leading them away from the truth. This underscores the need to stay vigilant and uphold sound doctrine despite the lure of false teachings.

Paul is warning Timothy that there will come a day when people will not want to hear the truth. They would rather hear anything else than truth, gathering to themselves teachers that tell them what they want to hear instead of adhering to sound doctrine.

His exhortation is that Timothy ought to preach the word! And not just preach it but be ready at any time to preach it. He says, “reprove, rebuke, and exhort.” These are very pointed and particular ways of dealing with someone who is learning from you. These words mean “prove what’s wrong, correct what is wrong, and encourage them” to hear truth. These are very strong words for us in 2024. In a day where words are seen as violence, standing for the truth will land you in a place where you will suffer if you speak out. When those who oppose will turn around and censure, dox, and insist that you be quiet. Which is interesting because it’s the same thing, the same template as what Paul told Timothy, just with the devil's twist on it.

Nevertheless, Paul says to do it and to do it with all patience and teaching. Keep calling people to the truth! It is a worthy message that we carry.

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For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; 7 he stores up **sound wisdom** for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, 8 guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

PROVERBS 2:6-8



# Sound Doctrine in Proverbs

Before we close out our study of sound doctrine I wanted to leave off with some wisdom from the Old Testament. We find valuable wisdom about sound doctrine in Proverbs. Proverbs often points to sound wisdom as coming from the Lord, showing that divine wisdom is key to living righteously.

Proverbs 2:6-8 and 3:19-23 emphasize that sound wisdom, which comes from God, is crucial for living securely and with integrity.

”

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens, 20 by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew. 21 My son, do not lose sight of these — **keep sound wisdom and discretion**, 22 and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. 23 Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble.

PROVERBS 3:19-23

Proverbs 8:12-16 highlights that sound wisdom is important for good leadership and fair governance.

”

“I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,  
and I find knowledge and discretion.  
13 The fear of the Lord is hatred of  
evil. Pride and arrogance and the  
way of evil and perverted speech I  
hate. 14 **I have counsel and  
sound wisdom**; I have insight; I  
have strength. 15 By me kings reign,  
and rulers decree what is just;  
16 by me princes rule, and nobles,  
all who govern justly.

PROVERBS 8:12-16



So, sound doctrine is essential for the health and stability of our Christian teachings and practices. It means sticking to the gospel of Jesus Christ and fostering righteousness and godliness. Paul's letters to Titus and Timothy stress the need for sound doctrine in teaching, character, and defending against falsehood. Proverbs adds to this by showing that sound wisdom comes from God and is vital for just and righteous living. By holding fast to sound doctrine, we not only preserve the integrity of our faith but also build a community rooted and grounded in truth, wisdom, and godliness.

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Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all **sound judgment**. <sup>2</sup> A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. <sup>3</sup> When wickedness comes, contempt comes also, and with dishonor comes disgrace.

PROVERBS 18:1-3



# AUTHOR'S NOTES

*Thank you for reading and studying along with me.*

*- Starla*

“Ironically, the insistence that doctrines do not matter is really a doctrine itself.”

~Tim Keller

We all are teaching...something. Our own doctrines or the King of Heaven's!

~Starla Smith

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*Thanks for Listening..  
Starla*