

Chapter 1

The Three Basic Rationales for the Study of Basic Doctrines

The first rationale for the study of doctrine is simply that God willed that the truth is needful and can be known.

Christ gave a promise – according to John 14:26, what is this promise?

How is God most clearly revealed?

John 1:1, 14

John 14:9

Is this revelation of God through His Word still going on?

How do the following verses deal with this issue?

1 Thessalonians 4:9

Hebrews 4:12

1 John 2:27

How do the following verses address the issue that it is our personal responsibility before God to know the truth?

Titus 1:9, 13, 14

Titus 2:1, 15

What special blessings are associated with the knowledge of the truth?

Psalms 119:7

Psalms 119:8

Psalms 119:9

Psalm 119:11

John 4:23, 24

Ephesians 6:10-20

2 Timothy 3:17

Titus 1:9

What role does simple obedience play in knowing doctrinal truth in light of the commands of God?

2 Timothy 2:15

Titus 2:1

Titus 2:7

A second motivation for knowing sound doctrine is that man can be so easily deceived.

What does Christ have to say on this subject in the following passages?

Matthew 24:4, 5, 11, 24, 25

In several of his books, Paul drives home a recurring theme. One example of this theme is found in 1 Timothy 4:1, 2. What is this theme?

In 2 Timothy 4:3,4 what role does Paul see deception playing in the last days?

What is Paul's warning in Romans 16:17, 18?

What is Paul's concern in Ephesians 4:14?

In the book of 2 John the beloved apostle seeks to warn "the chosen lady" of the danger of deception.

How does he suggest that she deal with this danger?

What weight, then, must be given to the danger of the seduction of false doctrine?

The sheer mass of scripture dealing with this issue should alert us to this danger as well. List the key thought of each of the following verses.

Matthew 24:4

Matthew 24:5

Matthew 24:11

Matthew 24:24

Mark 4:15

Luke 4:2, 13

John 8:44

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Galatians 1:6-9

Ephesians 4:14

Colossians 2:8

2 Peter 2:1-3

2 Peter 2:17-19, 22

2 Peter 3:3, 4

1 John 4:1, 5

2 John 9-11

Jude 4, 10

Warnings of the decline of the church should alert us:

How does Paul address this issue in 2 Timothy 4:1-5?

How does the prophecy in Amos 8:11, 12 speak to this issue?

The third rationale for the study of doctrine is based on the premise that not only are there internal causes of deception (man by nature being easily deceived), but there are also external forces at work in this area.

How does Revelation 13:11-18 apply to this concept of deception?

Sensationalism over truth has always been a problem. How is this seen in Acts 14:8-14?

In the following list of verses, how is Satan presented as the attacker of truth?

Genesis 3:1-6

Exodus 7:11

Matthew 4:1-11

Matthew 16:23

Mark 4:15

Luke 4:9-11

John 8:44

Acts 5:3

Acts 16:16

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10

1 Timothy 5:15

Revelation 20:3

In what ways is the World presented as an opponent of sound doctrine?

Ephesians 4:14

Colossians 2:8

The following is a series of highlight verses from the book of Galatians. How do they develop the theme of the Flesh in opposition to doctrinal truth?

Galatians 1:6-9; 2:16; 5:16-18; 6:12-16

In closing, doctrine must be kept in its proper balance. There is a dynamic tension between knowing and obeying.

How does Ezra manifest this balance in Ezra 7:10?

How does Christ address this issue in John 14:15, 21, 23, 24?

How does James address this issue in James 1:22?

How does John address this issue in 1 John 3:18?

List the three rationales for the study of doctrine with a proof text for each below.

Rationale #1

Rationale #2

Rationale #3

Below are listed the six basic components of the Wheel Illustration. In the space provided describe how an ignorance of basic Bible doctrine could or would affect the disciple's ability to function in the given area.

Lordship

Obedience

Word

Prayer

Witnessing

Fellowship