

Foundation of the sermon

Purpose

Show why strong doctrine must be preached

Principle Idea:

The teaching of “sound doctrine” is necessary in the church to stop the mouth of the rebellious.

Type of Outline

Exposition of Titus 1:10-16

I. Introduction

The passage that we studied last week ended with verse 9 of Titus 1 it said:

“9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.”

The verses we will look at today are found in Titus 1:10-16 they say:

“10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. 12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. 13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; 14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth. 15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”

Today we are going to be looking at some passages, which give us the reason that sound doctrine must be preached to gainsayers. The passage does so by describing the character “gainsayers” in Titus 1:10. Paul goes on to command Titus “Stop the mouths” of gainsayers -- in verses 11- 12. In verses 13 and 14 he tells Titus How to “Stop the mouths” of the gainsayers. Lastly Paul tells Titus the “Motive” of gainsayers in verses 15-16

II. Body

A. The character of “gainsayers” verses 10

1. There are three terms used to describe “gainsayers” -- note Paul indicates that these are especially found among the Jews.

- a. “Rebellious – or one’s who oppose” – The word used here is also found in I Timothy 1:9 and is translated as “disobedient.” Where Paul says: “Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,”
 - b. “Vain talkers or idle talkers” BDAG also provides the term “windbags” for a possible translation of this word. This is the only place in Scripture where this Greek word is used. It comes from the word *mataios* meaning: “worthless because deceptive or ineffectual.” TDNT [572].
 - c. “Deceivers” This is the only place in the NT that this Greek term appears – it according to Moulton is related to “a woman’s description of her former lover” in one ancient writing (Moulton 675) and speaks of a “mind-deceiver” and is translated “*seductor*” in the Latin Vulgate (Thayer)
2. These are found specifically among the Jews –
- a. The story of “Lilith”
 “The idea that Adam had a wife prior to Eve may have developed from an interpretation of the Book of Genesis and its dual creation accounts; while Genesis 2:22 describes God's creation of Eve from Adam's rib, an earlier passage, 1:27, already indicates that a woman had been made: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." The Alphabet text places Lilith's creation after God's words in Genesis 2:18 that "it is not good for man to be alone"; in this text God forms Lilith out of the clay from which he made Adam but she and Adam bicker. Lilith claims that since she and Adam were created in the same way they were equal and she refuses to submit to him: After God created Adam, who was alone, He said, 'It is not good for man to be alone.' He then created a woman for Adam, from the earth, as He had created Adam himself, and called her Lilith. Adam and Lilith immediately began to fight. She said, 'I will not lie below,' and he said, 'I will not lie beneath you, but only on top. For you are fit only to be in the bottom position, while I am to be the superior one.' Lilith responded, 'We are equal to each other inasmuch as we were both created from the earth.' But they would not listen to one another. When Lilith saw this, she pronounced the Ineffable Name and flew away into the air.” [Wikipedia]

These are like modern “urban myths” or “conspiracy” theories. Adam Clarke compares this type of thinking to the Roman Churches – various teachings --- not based in Scripture but the traditions of the church – we might say using incorrect methods of interpretation – or allegorical understandings.

B. “Stop the Mouths” of “gainsayers” 11-12

- 1. Why you Must “stop their mouths” -11-
 - a. They subvert entire households – they “overthrow” these households. This verb is used in John 2 where Christ “overthrows” the moneychangers’ tables, and in II Timothy 2 where Paul speaks of the effect of profane babblings –when he states they “overthrow the faith of some.”
 - b. The “rebellious” ones – teach what they “ought not.” --
 - c. Reason for their false teaching “filthy” lucre – “dirty” money.
- 2. Description of those whose mouths must be stopped: -12
 - a. One of their own 13 Adam Clarke in Volume 6 page 649 notes:

“This was Epimenides, who was born at *Gnossus*, in Crete, and was reckoned by many the Seventh wise man of Gnossus, instead of Perinder, to whom that honour was denied. Many fabulous things are related of this poet, ... “ He is accredited with some prophecies that came true and some false. Paul was not calling him a Biblical prophet – but just pointed out a truism that Epimenides had spoken. He goes on to say: “That the Cretians were reputed to be egregious liars, several ancients declare ... that to act like a Cretian signifies “to lie”

Of the Jewish fables Clarke notes on page 603 of volume 6 –
“... Talmudic writings are stuffed with the most ridiculous and profane fables that ever disgraced the human intellect.”

- b. Three descriptive terms
 - i) liars
 - ii) Evil beasts
 - iii) Slow bellies (gluttonous)
- C. How to “Stop the mouths” of the Gainsayers 13-14
 - 1. Rebuke them sharply –
 - 2. Reason they may be “strong” in the faith – have healthy faith.
 - 3. By not giving heads to Jewish fables
 - 4. By not following the commandments of men
 - 5. The negative commands are against things that – turn from the truth.
- D. The Motive of the gainsayers.
 - 1. They are defiled – and want to represent everyone else as defiled
 - a. Defiled mind
 - b. Defiled conscience
 - 2. Professing their God intelligence
 - a. Works deny Him
 - 1. Being abominable
 - 2. Disobedient
 - 3. Toward good works reprobate.

III. Conclusion

The world we live in is a dangerous place – this includes the body of believers. There are people all around us whose minds are defiled by the world, whose conscience is seared, who want to “overthrow” you. These people are even in the congregations of God’s church. As Jude 1:4 says they came in “unawares” and as Paul says in Titus says their method is “subversion” and seductive. Their purpose is to hide their own disobedience. Their works reveal them to us.

Because these people are in the church – Paul says to rebuke them – his purpose is to convert them – to give them healthy doctrine. That’s why in our teaching here we have a emphasis on “sound” or “healthy” doctrine – this is why we avoid “fringe” ideas we want to stay in the center of God’s truth. We avoid “fables” Jewish or otherwise – and we seek to teach the “WORD of GOD” not what men – ecclesiastical structures or any man teach about the Bible or how the church should act –

Title: Stop the Mouth of gainsayers