



9/20/2023 AM

Introduction:

“doctrines of demons” =

How does “the Spirit clearly say” something?

What exactly are “the later times”?

1) Here’s what you can expect... (vs. 1)

- a. “some will abandon the faith” (Acts 20:29-31; II Timothy 3:1-5)
- b. some will “follow deceiving spirits”
- c. some will follow “doctrines of demons”

2) Here’s why... (vs. 2)

- a. it comes from “hypocritical liars” who are tolerated (II Corinthians 11:13-15)
- b. it’s the result of “seared consciences”

3) Here’s how far it will go... (vs. 3a)

II Peter 2:1-3, 18-20

- a. “forbid people to marry”
- b. “order them to abstain from certain foods”

Acts 10:9-16

4) Here's why it's wrong... (vs. 3b-4)

Question: Why does it say, "those who believe and who know the truth"?

a. It comes from a disrespect for what God has revealed.

b. It involves a willful disregard for God's goodness.

c. Ultimately, it amounts to ingratitude.

Romans 1:21
Mark 8:6
Acts 27:35
Ephesians 5:19-20
I Thessalonians 5:16-18
Colossians 1:11-12; 2:6-7

5) Here's what to do about it... (vs. 5)

a. Evaluate everything by the Word of God.

b. Talk to God about all things.

Conclusion:

- 1) We must strive unrelentingly to pattern our every thought and conviction on Scripture.
- 2) Our convictions are only as good as our understanding what God's Word says about any given subject.
- 3) Understanding the implications of God's grace will temper the application of our convictions to other believers.

Food for Thought:

- 1) How may we recognize groups or individuals that depart from the faith?
- 2) What false doctrines have you heard on your screens (Internet, movies, TV)? Have you noticed them begin to appear among Christians? In church?
- 3) Why do cult leaders often teach a false asceticism?
- 4) Why does Paul speak of those who both "believe" and "know" the truth? Is there a distinction?