

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

### **Sermon Notes for December 6-7, 2003**

#### **"The Protection of the Church"**

##### **1 Timothy 1:3-7**

1 Timothy 1:3-7 is an incomplete sentence in Greek, implying a sense of urgency and emotion.

#### **1. The protection from strange doctrine (1:3-4)**

The phrase "teach strange doctrine" is translated from a single compound word (HETERODIDASKALEIN) that joined the words "another" and "teaching."

The focus is not upon what certain men teach that is the same doctrine but rather what is taught that is different.

Founded upon myths (1 Timothy 4:7; 2 Timothy 4:4; Titus 1:14). Strange doctrine is built upon myths that lead to speculation.

"Mere speculation" (EKZETESEIS) means a useless seeking out. These can result in disputes (NKJV) or controversies (NIV). Those who teach another doctrine cause these disputes.

The myths that Paul saw as the major threat involved the Jewish law (1 Timothy 1:8; Titus 1:14). The myths that are the major threat to the church today involve psychology.

God's ministry is built upon faith, not speculation.

#### **2. The purpose of our instruction (1:5)**

- a. A pure heart speaks to salvation
- b. A good conscience speaks to being Spirit-filled
- c. A sincere faith speaks to godly service

These three elements are all internal. We must not only know the right things, we must also practice them with right motives.

The goal is love, which serves God and man.

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**3. The pride of certain men (1:6-7)**

- a. They deviated from God's principles
- b. They were dislocated from their place
- c. Their discussions lacked profit
- d. They desired position
- e. They were dogmatically presumptive

We can only make confident assertions about that which we know to be true. God's Word is truth (John 17:17).