

STAYING ON COURSE

2 Timothy 2:14-19

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I. STAY TRUE

“Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:14-15

A. Focus on the Majesty of our Job at Hand.

B. Deal with Error and Distractions.

“...and charge them before God not to (engage in word wars) quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers.” v. 14b, c

Historically and biblically, wisdom has been seen as a critical eye evaluating claims and postulates, actions and underlying morals, and then concludes: “This is right and brings glory to God”, or “That is wrong.” Wisdom in the O.T. (*hacmah*) is taking the truth of God and living life skillfully in every area of life.

C. Handle the Word of Truth with Precision.

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

v. 15

1) What we are to teach...

“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.” James 3:1

II. HOW TO STAY TRUE?

A. What We are to Avoid...

Path of Syncretism

Acquire Truth → Dilute Truth → Deny Truth

B. How We are to Avoid It...

“Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness.”

2 Timothy 2:14-16

1) Negative

“But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness.”

v. 16

“Now the Philistines had stopped and filled with earth all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father.”

Genesis 26:15

2. Positive

“But God’s firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity.”

2 Timothy 2:19