



Doctrine Matters: History I
From sermon 7.21.19

Read 1 Timothy 4:16

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: the true, biblical church will always be attacked from the outside world. Sadly, the most effective and repeated attacks have come from within. Satan has sown false doctrine in the church in all ages and is in overdrive in our day. All false doctrine originates in a deviation from Holy Scripture. God has raised up champion faith-defenders throughout history. We learn much from their causes, motivations, and costs.

Match the Defender with the false doctrine they battled.

Paul
The Early Church
The Reformers

Gnosticism & Arianism
Tradition
Legalism (Judaism)

Which group said accepting Christ, by faith, wasn't enough for salvation. You had to also follow the Old Testament Law? Legalism/Judaism

To which group of Churches did Paul write addressing this false doctrine almost exclusively? Galatians/Galatia See *Galatians 2:16, 3:3, & 5:4*

How quickly did false doctrine enter the newfound Church (es)? Immediately
See also *Acts 20:27-32*

Which group introduced teaching that Jesus was created and, therefore, not God? Arianism
On Sunday, it was pointed out that Arianism created such a stir in the Christian world that an historic Council was convened to answer it. It met in Nicaea (present day Iznik, Turkey) in 325. They adopted (and in 381 revised) the Nicene Creed. Someone read it. Discuss.

It was also taught, that by 350-400, the Bible as we know it was compiled, canonized, and distributed*. So, the battle was no longer just new ideas coming into the Church, but a forever battle for The Bible—the inerrancy, sufficiency, and finality of Scripture

Does this battle still rage on today? [yes. Of course. As much as ever.]
Give examples. [Cults, Liberal theology, neglecting the whole Word of God, redefining sin, ...]
How long will it go on? Until the New Heaven and New Earth

To combat false doctrine, liberate the Church, and to equip individual believers, the Reformers championed putting the Scriptures (where?) In the hands of the people & in their language
See *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Did this accomplish its goals or cause further false doctrine? Yes! The Protestant Church then divided and since the very days the Bible was available, some have rode off in all directions.
See *2 Peter 3:15-18 & Ephesians 4:11-15*

How does false doctrine creep into the Church today? Compromising Scripture/conviction for the crowd, dollars, unity, & acceptance. Through teachers, books and music.
What steps can we take as a Church and as Christians to guard against it? Various answers