A 3–D Approach to What We Believe:

Doctrine, Discernment, & Discipline

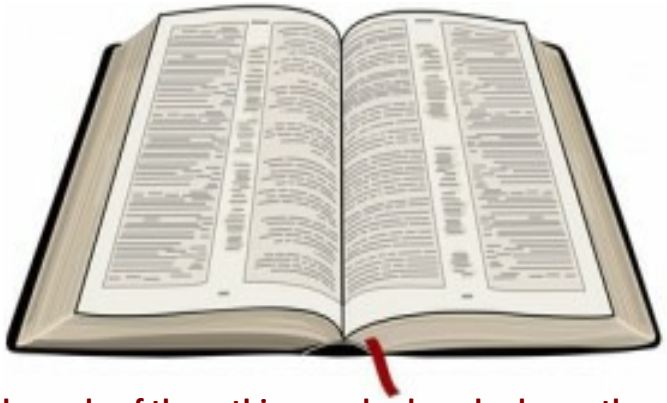
Acknowledging & Applying God's Truth:

Approved Workers Are Not Ashamed!

—summarizing 2 Timothy 2:1–17

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

—from the Evangelical Free Church Statement of Faith



Remind people of these things and solemnly charge them before the Lord not to wrangle over words. This is useless and leads to the ruin of those who listen. Diligently make every effort to present yourself before God as an approved worker who does not need to be ashamed, teaching the message of truth accurately. But avoid empty chatter because those occupied with it will stray further and further into ungodliness, and their message will spread its infection like gangrene. —2 Timothy 2:14–17

—Acknowledging Our FOCUS:

We **WHOLEHEARTEDLY** believe that the Bible is God's **WORD** to us, **TEACHING** us **HOW TO LIVE!** Therefore, we **OBEY ALL** that it **TEACHES** and we **TRUST WHAT IT PROMISES**!

—Addressing the Emphasis of Today's Study:

The _____ of God's Truth is an

_____ **&** an

_____ of God's _____ **!**

—The faithful pastor's role and responsibility is to relay God's message to people. He isn't free to simply present his own opinions, or make up his own stuff. He wasn't called by God to be a politician, a diplomat, or a spin doctor. His primary task is to proclaim God's Truth by the power of God's Spirit so the people can understand it.
—an anonymous pastor who wants God to receive the glory

—Jesus prayed, "But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may be saturated with My joy in themselves. I've given them Your Word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I'm not asking You to take them out of the world, but to guard them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the Truth; Your Word is Truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. For their sakes I sanctify Myself, so they themselves also may be sanctified in Truth. I'm not asking this on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me." **—John 17:13–21**

—For they exchanged the Truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. **—Romans 1:25**

—***Reviewing & Recognizing the Context:***

—**Remembering Paul's PROPHETIC WARNING …**

—**DIFFICULT & DANGEROUS** times … —**DECEPTION** will increase …

—Making it hard to **DECIDE** what's true & what's false

—**DISHONEST & DISTORTED DOCTRINE**

—**DESPERATE** need for **DISCERNMENT**

—_____ **the**_____ **of God's Word:**

1) 2 Timothy 1:13–14

2) 2 Timothy 2:15

3) 2 Timothy 3:16–17

—Five APPLICATIONAL Truths that lead to God's APPROVAL:

—1— _____ remember: God's GRACE is_____!

—2— _____ others who are _____ to teach God's truth!

—Our_____ to study, understand and teach God's Word is a gift of God's grace!

—Therefore, if our_____ is God's_____ ,

—3— We should be ***AWARE*** of the_____ caused by ***ARGUMENTS*** about **God's Truth**!

—4— We are instructed to be_____ to be_____ in how we_____ God's Word to_____our lives!

—**Diligent** =

—**Accurate** =

—Ashamed =

—Approved =

—5— We should be ***AVOID*** _____ that are filled with ***IGNORANCE & INFECTIONS***!

—our words matter to God!

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