

Acts Studies: The Apostle's Doctrine

Who has the Authority to Declare Doctrine?

- Do church councils speak to us with doctrinal authority?
 - What about their historic creeds, confessions, or catechisms?
- Do popes or cardinals or bishops speak to us with doctrinal authority?
 - What about the patristic writings of the early church fathers?
- Do pastors or elders speak to us with doctrinal authority?
 - What about movement leaders, such as Luther, Calvin, or Wesley?
- Do modern prophets speak to us with doctrinal authority?
 - What if they claim to have a “fresh word” for us?

We Were Warned

Jude 17 – 19

17 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

18 They said to you, **“In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.”**

19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

2nd Peter 3:1 – 3

1 This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder,

2 that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles,

3 knowing this first of all, that **scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.**

Is the Reformation Finished?

1st Kings 15:9 – 14

9 In the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Asa began to reign over Judah,

10 and he reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom.

11 And Asa did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as David his father had done.

12 He put away the male cult prostitutes out of the land and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

13 He also removed Maacah his mother from being queen mother because she had made an abominable image for Asherah. And Asa cut down her image and burned it at the brook Kidron.

14 But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was wholly true to the LORD all his days.



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What Foundation Is the Faith of the Christian Church Built Upon?

Ephesians 2:19 - 22

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

The Words we Trust for our Doctrine

Psalms 19:7 - 11

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

Psalms 119:89 - 96 NET

89 ʾ (Lamed) O LORD, your instructions endure; they stand secure in heaven.

90 You demonstrate your faithfulness to all generations. You established the earth and it stood firm.

91 Today they stand firm by your decrees, for all things are your servants.

92 If I had not found encouragement in your law, I would have died in my sorrow.

93 I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have revived me.

94 I belong to you. Deliver me! For I seek your precepts.

95 The wicked prepare to kill me, yet I concentrate on your rules.

96 I realize that everything has its limits, but your commands are beyond full comprehension.

2nd Timothy 3:16 - 4:5

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

4:1 I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:

2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,

4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

5 As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

