

Is Doctrine Important?

There are so many different beliefs today when it comes to following God. Many claim to love Jesus and want Him to come into their lives, but yet we see so many different ways that religious people claim to worship or even follow after God. We hear terms like “the doctrine of Christ” used when describing what those in the church should do to honor God and find salvation, but which way is the most important? Does doctrine truly matter?

A. God teaches that there is absolute truth which we can know

1. Jesus tells us there is real truth. (*John 8:32*) He tells us His words are truth. (*John 18:37-38, 17:17, 8:45, 12:49; 1 Pet.4:11; John 16:13-15*)
2. Truth comes from God and He gave it to mankind (*Ps.119:160; Rom. 1:18, 25; Jer. 5:3*)

B. God insists that we learn His truth

1. Knowing the truth is an essential part of salvation and growth (*1 Tim. 2:3-4; Eph.2:8-9; Gal. 3:26; Heb. 11:6; Rom.6:17-18; Heb. 5:12-14, 6:1; Eph.4:11-12*)
2. Following Jesus requires that we be willing to learn (*Matt.11:28-30; 2 Tim.2:15*)

C. God’s truth has to mold and shape who we are

1. The doctrine of Christ has value if we are willing to live it (*James 1:21-24; 2:14-26; Luke 6:46*)
2. Doctrine shows us limits that honor God (*1 Cor.4:6; Rom.16:17; 1 Tim. 6:3; 2 John 7-11*)
3. Sound doctrine was needed then and is needed now (*2 Tim.4:1-4*)

D. God tells us to stand firm in doctrine

1. What He gave is complete and all-sufficient (*1 Pet.1:3; Heb.2:3-4; Mark 16:20*)
2. Doctrine needs to be taught and defended (*Titus 1:9; Jude 3*)

We can only find salvation and be free of Satan through the doctrine that God has given (*John 8:32; Rom.10:17*). God cares deeply for us and wants to keep us from drifting away (*Heb.2:1-4*).