

Challenges In The First Century (Part 2)

1 Kings 19:1-10

The Challenge From False Teachers

Jesus warned. Matthew 7:15; 24:4-5

Apostles warned.

1. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 Satan has ministers.
2. 1 Timothy 4:1-3 Some would depart from the faith.
3. 2 Timothy 4:1-4 Men would turn from the faith.
4. 1 John 4:1-3 False prophets gone out into the world.

The Challenge From False Teachers

- “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22
- “Hold the pattern of sound words...” 2 Timothy 1:13
- No longer be tossed to and fro. Ephesians 4:14
- Not be carried away. Hebrews 13:9-19

The Challenge From False Teachers

The Book Of Jude.

1. “Contend earnestly” (verse 3) – “To fight for or in reference to something.” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)
2. “For the faith” – that which is taught. (Acts 13:5-8)
3. “Crept in privily” (verse 4)
4. “Ungodly men” (cf. 2 Peter 2:5-6)

The Challenge From False Teachers

The Book Of Jude.

5. Remember the teaching of the apostles. (verses 17-18; cf. 2 Peter 2:1; 3:1-3)
6. Build yourselves up, pray, keep yourselves in the love of God. (verses 20-21)
7. Keep the commandments. (verses 20-21; 1 John 5:3)

The Challenge From False Teachers In The Leadership

Elders to watch the flock. (Acts 20:28-30)

1. Danger from without. (verse 29)
2. Danger from within. (verse 30)
 - a. Paul had warned them night and day “with tears.” (verse 31)
 - b. Commended them to the “word of His grace which is able to build you up, and to give you the inheritance among all them that are sanctified.” (verse 32)

The Challenge From False Teachers In The Leadership

Preachers to “preach the word.” (2 Timothy 4:2)

1. Some would preach the whims of the people. (2 Timothy 4:3; cf. Jeremiah 5:31-32)

The Challenge From Controversy In The Church

Some taught Gentiles to be circumcised.

(Acts 15:1-5)

Truth revealed by:

- a. Approved example. Acts 15:7
- b. Necessary inference. Acts 15:12
- c. Direct statement. Acts 15:13
- d. Respect for God’s silence. Acts 15:24

The Challenge From Controversy In The Church

Some taught Gentiles to be circumcised.

(Acts 15:1-5)

Effect:

Peter taught the truth. (Acts 2:21; Acts 10:34-35; Acts 15:7)

Peter and Barnabas influenced by this controversy. Galatians 2:11-13 (cf. 2:4-5)

Application And Conclusion

- God wants people to confront sin.
- Discipline must be practiced to protect the church and save the soul of the one in sin.
- “We must obey God rather than men.”
- False teachers must be challenged.
- When we feel isolated, even paralyzed, remember we are not alone. “Yet will I leave (me) seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal” (1 Kings 19:18)