



Verse 9

“Avoid” – **shun**, has the idea of treating with **indifference**, to literally turn around and go the other way for the purpose of avoiding someone or something

When you come across any of these things that attack God’s Word through these foolish controversies, allegorical genealogical ideas, or **useless disputes** about the things of God, just avoid it. Turn your back and walk away.

If our theology and doctrine does not **promote** the supremacy and lordship of Jesus Christ and the need to submit every aspect of our lives to Him, it is **worthless** speculation – not *always* sin, but not worth the time spent on it.

Verse 10

“Divisive person” – is used to mean someone who has **chosen** an idea, a teaching, a doctrine, a viewpoint or perspective, a course of behavior that was not **acceptable** to the church – not acceptable to the Word of God or to the mind of the Spirit as revealed through the leadership.

Though it may be caused by a number of things, the issue is **divisiveness**: not only is he or she holding to whatever the cause is but also is factiously seeking to persuade or recruit others.

“Have nothing to do with him” – **reject**, cut him off from the **fellowship** (Matthew 18:17; 2 Thessalonians 3:14)

Verse 11

This isn’t some individual who doesn’t know the truth or what is expected and what God says. He is a warped individual and is **continuing** in a course of belief and attitude and action that is contrary to the Word and will of God. So you put him out: reject him.

He is passing judgment **on himself** by whatever decision he is making.

God gives us such strong responses because truth in **unity** is the stock and trade of the church’s **evangelism**.

(John 13:35; 1 Corinthians 1-4; Philippians 1-2; Ephesians 4; etc.)

Unity does exactly what God says in Titus because unity demands that we are united around the **truth** of the Word of God and the mind of the Spirit.

(Titus 1:9)

If the church is going to have any **witness** in the world, it must maintain pure doctrine because (verse 8) pure doctrine is the foundation for **pure** living.

If you think that church leaders are being judgmental and **unloving** if ever they need to deal with someone in the manner God is describing, you are probably being more **influenced** by our “tolerant culture” than by the truth of God’s Word.

The other reason for the necessity of the principles of Titus 3:9-11 is that **truth matters**.

(Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 5:11-12; John 14:17; 17:17; 18:37)

These things are **important** to affirm not only because unbelievers in our godless culture are attacking them, but also because professing ‘believers’ in the church are attacking them.

We cannot **love** God who revealed His truth to us if we are unwilling to stand up and be counted for the truth He has disclosed to us and to carefully yet confidently avoid and reject anything and anyone that

- **distorts** the gospel of grace in Jesus Christ
- **distracts** from the godliness of life submitted to His Lordship
- **divides** the unity of the church in the truth of the Spirit by which the world around us sees the glory of God!