

TRUTH

OR

PART 2

Biblical safeguards against
destructive heresies and
unprincipled errors

ERROR

I. Recognize the Danger: Destructive Heresies Can Enter the Church

Three dangers:

- 1. Error can be, is almost always mixed with truth**
- 2. Error can be presented as advanced understanding**
- 3. Error produces destructive spiritual consequences**

II. Defend the True Gospel: There Is No Authority Above God's Revealed Word

- 1. Experiences must be tested by the Bible**
- 2. The gospel must remain centered on Jesus Christ**
- 3. Ellen White upheld the supreme authority of Scripture**

III. Test the Spirits: Sincerity Is Not the Same as Truth

- 1. Test the teaching. Does it agree with the Word?**
- 2. Test the fruit and character of the messenger**
- 3. Test claims when we are told, “God told me.”**
- 4. Practical illustration: The bank’s counterfeit detector**

**IV. Become Spiritually Established:
Do Not Be Carried About by Every
Wind of Doctrine**

2 Peter 1:12 (KJV) — 12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

Ephesians 4:11–13 (KJV) — 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Ephesians 4:14 (KJV) — 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

We should all know what is being taught among us, for if it is truth, we need to know it. . . . We are all under obligation to God to know what he sends to us. He has given directions by which we may test every doctrine,—“To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” But if it is according to this test, do not be so full of prejudice that you cannot acknowledge a point when it is proved to you, simply because it does not agree with your ideas. (*Review and Herald*, March 25, 1890, par. 8)

Hebrews 13:9 (KJV) — 9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.







Time in the Scriptures

2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV) — 15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Prayer

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV) — 17 Pray without ceasing.

Obedience to God's Revealed Will

John 15:10 (KJV) — 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

Obedience to God's Revealed Will

Isaiah 59:2 (KJV) — 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Worship and Fellowship with other Believers

Hebrews 10:25 (KJV) — 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Cultivate Humility and a Teachable Spirit

James 4:6 (KJV) — 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

**V. Guard Against the Error of the Wicked:
Remain Faithful to the Truth You Have
Received**

2 Peter 3:17 (KJV) — 17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

2 Peter 3:15–16 (KJV) — 15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

Revelation 14:12 (KJV) — 12 Here is the patience of the saints:
here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the
faith of Jesus.

Ephesians 4:15 (KJV) — 15 But speaking the truth in love
[ἀγάπη], may grow up into him in all things, which is the head,
even Christ:

Galatians 6:1 (KJV) — 1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

