“Hold Fast”

(Luke 6:25-37)

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Introduction

Galatians 1:6

Hebrews 2:1

Hebrews 3:12-14

2 Peter 1:2ff

Characteristics of the culture Paul lived within:

1. Strange doctrines, myths, fables, genealogies, fruitless discussions

2. Doctrines of demons and that do not agree with sound words, profane, empty chatter and arguments, so called knowledge

3. Wranglings, foolishness, ignorant speculations, quarrels, lack of spiritual senses, ungodliness, opposition to the truth, depraved minds

4. Evil men, imposters, unwillingness to hear sound doctrine, accumulation of teachers who meet selfish desires.

5. Always learning but never coming to the knowledge of the truth

Paul's response of how to live within culture

1. Fight the good fight, keep the faith, have a good conscience

2. Pray, point these things out, constantly nourish yourself on the words of the faith, discipline yourself in godliness

3. Give attention to yourself and your teaching, persevere in these things

4. Prescribe and teach, flee the love of money, pursue righteousness, faith, love, perseverance, gentleness, take hold on eternal life

5. Avoid worldly chatter

6. Do not be ashamed of the gospel, retain the standard of sound words, guard the gospel treasure

7. Be strong in the grace of Christ, entrust these things to faithful men, suffer hardships

8. Remember Christ risen, be diligent to be approved of God, flee youthful lusts, do not be quarrelsome, be kind to all able to teach with great patience

9. Realize difficult days will come, continue in what you have learned, be convinced of them, preach the word, be ready in season and out of season

10. Be sober in all things, do the work of an evangelist

Our response to all of this:

1. Follow Paul's example

2. Humility

3. Prayer

4. Study

5. Perseverance/preservation

2 Timothy 4:6-8

Philippians 2:12-13

For Further Study

London Baptist Confession

Westminster Confession

Westminster Larger and Smaller Catechism

Heidelberg Catechism

Canons of Dort

Belgic Confession