**"Know the Truth"**

**Intro**: This morning, as we open to the 4th chapter of 1st Timothy, the Apostle Paul is instructing us as the pillar and support of the truth of God, that we might know the __________ upon which to stand and uphold. In this we learn to ________________ that which is false and to ________________ God for that which is true.

I. The __________ of the ____________.

   A. During our time some will ________________!

      1. Through faith in Christ we must ________________ ourselves lest we fall away from ______ ________, becoming an enemy of Christ!

B. Those who go apostate do so by giving themselves to anything that is anti-biblical, which is anti-christ, as it is disguised to deceive. Whatever denies the truth of God is deceptive and satanic. Be on your ____________ for satan prowls about as a roaring lion, seeking to devour you! Be on your guard, for yourself and all the church, for false teachers will arise among us! This is the ____________ announced by God the ____________ Spirit.

II. The ______ of the ____________.

   A. The “spirits” are entirely ________________ and they use unholy men to transmit their deceptive _________________. They have no care whatsoever for the individual they seek to destroy, only that in leading others astray they gain their unholy desires for themselves. They ________________ the esteem and worship of others, the wealth of others, and use others to satisfy their fleshly desires. Their means to that ________________ end is hypocrisy and lies.

   B. The demonic ________________ deceive through ________, holding as holy principles that are unholy. Their lies teach that the things God calls holy and good are unholy and wicked. In their demonic deception they teach that that which is basic to mankind, such as ________________ and food, is ________________ and not to be enjoyed when I fact, marriage and food are ordained by God for the life and fulfillment of man, and moreover, for His own glory!

III. The ____________ of ________!

   A. ____________ created marriage and food for the ____________ of mankind, has given these to mankind, and He calls His plan and ____________ good! As God calls marriage and food ____________ who are we to forbid marriage and eating? Let God be true and every man a liar!
B. ___________ __________________ marriage and food for the good of mankind so man would receive from God with thanksgiving; giving thanks with a grateful heart! When one forbids marriage and regulates food on account that they are enjoyable as God intended, they steal away that humanly perceptible means by which men recognize the goodness of God and ascribe ___________ __________________ back to Him.

C. Only those who believe in Christ and ___________ __________________ the ___________ _______________ of God are able to share in the goodness of God’s creation with thanksgiving.

IV. The ___________ of the ___________.

A. Think, my dear family, of the implications of this statement: “everything created by ___________ __________________ is ___________ ___________”! And consider the ramifications of this statement: “nothing is to be rejected”! Sigh the ___________ ___________ ___________ godly one, for it is ours to receive God’s good gifts (such as marriage and food) with gratitude! His blessings are not earned, are not worked for, and are not to be rejected, but simply received with thanksgiving! What ___________ ___________ we have in Christ for He fulfilled the works of the Law on our behalf – and it is our to ___________ ___________ receive His salvation and all God created for us!

1. There is _____ burdensome ___________ attached to God’s good gifts but it is ours to receive His kind blessings by ___________ ______________________, which produces prayers of thanksgiving!

B. Church, dear church! There is no redeeming value to be found in the rules and regulations of men. Whatever runs contrary to the truth of God runs contrary to your rest, and peace, and joy in Christ! What a ___________ ___________ ___________ dear church, for our salvation cannot be earned! Oh, what a relief it is to ___________ ___________ that ___________ ___________ purchased our salvation in full and that we are joined to Him not by marrying or by denying marriage, and not by eating or not eating certain foods but simply by coming to Him in ___________ ___________ believing, and in all things that follow, to ___________ ___________ ___________ of God’s good creation in faith with praise to God.

Closing: Will you ___________ ___________ today to believe the ___________ ___________ of the Spirit or will you choose to be deceived and fall for the lies of the spirits? If you will believe and live according to the truth of God then your soul will sigh in the relief and freedom of the ___________ ___________ that is found in Christ.

Here, in Christ, there is rest for the weary, strength for the weak, joy for the down trodden. ___________ ___________ there is peace of mind, calm for the heart, and rest for the soul.

Know the truth and be set free for if you abide in Christ’s Word, then you are His disciples, and you will know the Truth and He will make you free. And as Christ the Lord makes you free, you will be free indeed. Be still and ___________ ___________ that He is ___________.

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