

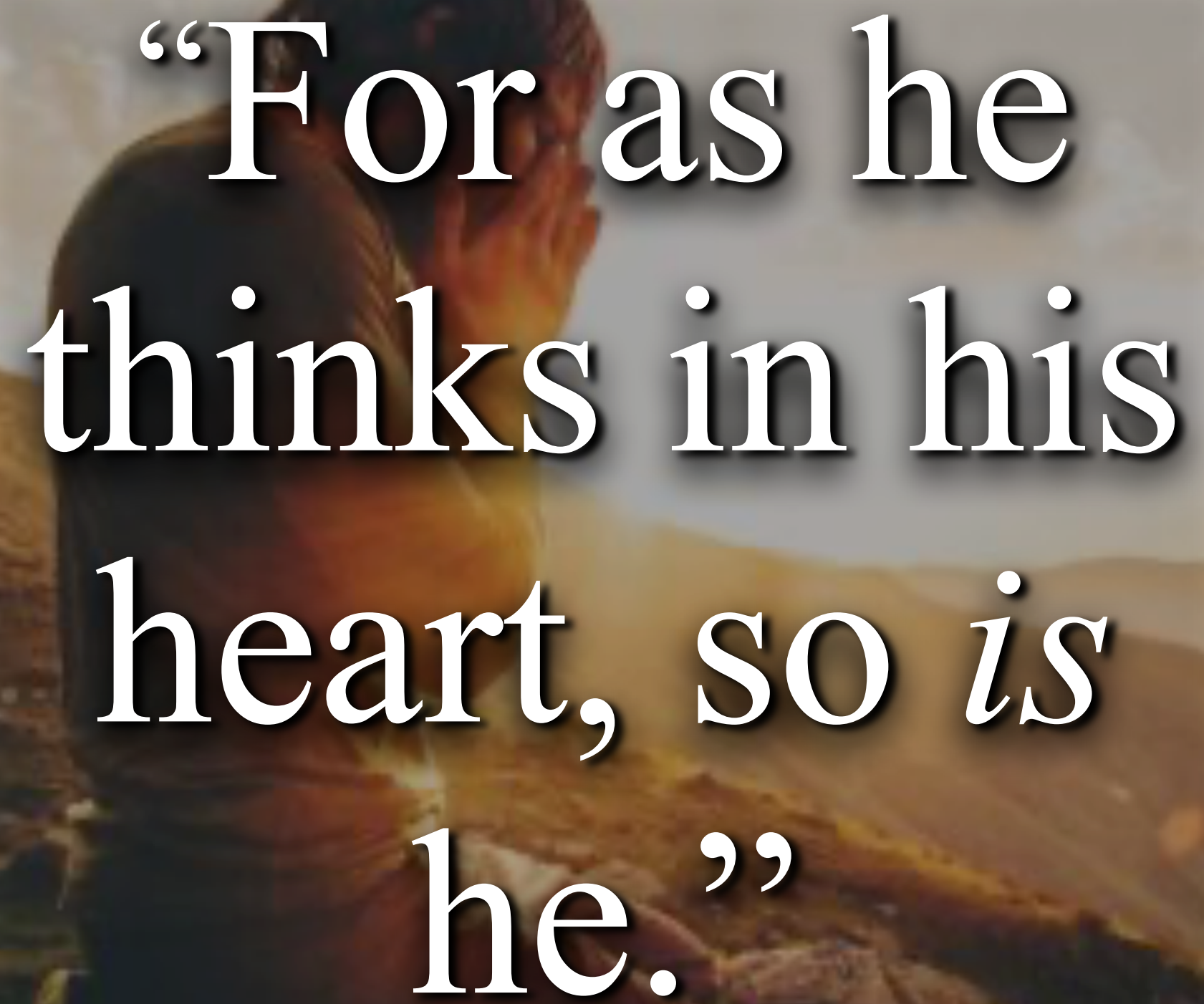
ATTITUDES

THE VALUE & IMPORTANCE OF GODLINESS

Our Attitude Towards **TRUTH & ERROR MATTERS**

(Psalm 119:97-104; Matthew 15:7-9; 2 Peter 2; 2 John 9; Jude 3)

THE VALUE & IMPORTANCE OF GODLINESS



“For as he
thinks in his
heart, so *is*
he.”

Proverbs 23:7

ATTITUDES

- HAVING THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IS ESSENTIAL TO SERVING GOD
- NOT MERELY ADVOCATING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, BUT A GODLY ATTITUDE!
- OUR ATTITUDE: “Our beliefs, emotions, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event”

THE VALUE & IMPORTANCE OF GODLINESS

ATTITUDES



- **TOWARD GOD**
- **TOWARD SCRIPTURE**
- **TOWARD GOD'S AUTHORITY**
- **TOWARD UNIVERSAL CHURCH**
- **TOWARD OURSELF**
- **TOWARD THE LOCAL CHURCH**
- **TOWARD SIN**
- **TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR**

ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

COMMON ATTITUDES OF OUR DAY:

- 1. Truth is subjective & relative - (no moral absolutes / doctrine & theology inconsequential) - (Judg 21:25; Jer. 6:16-19)**
- 2. The emphasis of feelings & emotion over, & instead of, a “thus saith the Lord.” - (Prov 14:12; Jer. 10:23;)**
- 3. A rejection of the reliability & absolute authority of the scriptures - (2 Tim 3:16,17; 2 Pet 1:19-21; Mat 24:35; Luke 21:33)**



ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

COMMON ATTITUDES OF OUR DAY:

Isaiah 59:14 (NKJV)

Justice is turned back, And
righteousness stands afar off;
For truth is fallen in the street,
And equity cannot enter.



ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

WHAT IS TRUTH?

John 17:16–19 (NKJV)

¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

Psalm 119:9

Hebrews 1:1,2

John 16:13;

Mat. 28:19,20

Romans 3:4

ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

Psalm 119:97–104 (NKJV)

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love Your law! It *is* my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸ You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they *are* ever with me. ⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies *are* my meditation. ¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep Your precepts. ¹⁰¹ I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word. ¹⁰² I have not departed from Your judgments, For You Yourself have taught me. ¹⁰³ How sweet are Your words to my taste, *Sweeter* than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴ Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR



WHAT IS MY ATTITUDE TOWARDS TRUTH?

- ▶ We should **LOVE** / **VALUE** the TRUTH (Ps. 119:72,97,127; Prov. 23:23; Mat. 13:44, 46. Phi. 3:7, 8)
- ▶ We should **HUNGER** for the TRUTH (Ps. 1:2; Mat. 5:6; Jn. 6:27-29; Acts 17:11,12)
- ▶ We should be willing to **ACCEPT** and **FOLLOW** the TRUTH wherever it leads (Ps. 119:105; John 3:21; 7:17; 1 Jn. 1:6)
- ▶ We should be willing to **DEFEND** the TRUTH against all deception and error which stands in contradiction and opposition to it (Ps. 119:104; Gal. 2:5; 1 Ti. 1:18; 6:12; Jude 3)

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

WHAT IS MY ATTITUDE TOWARDS TRUTH?

■ MANIFESTED BY:

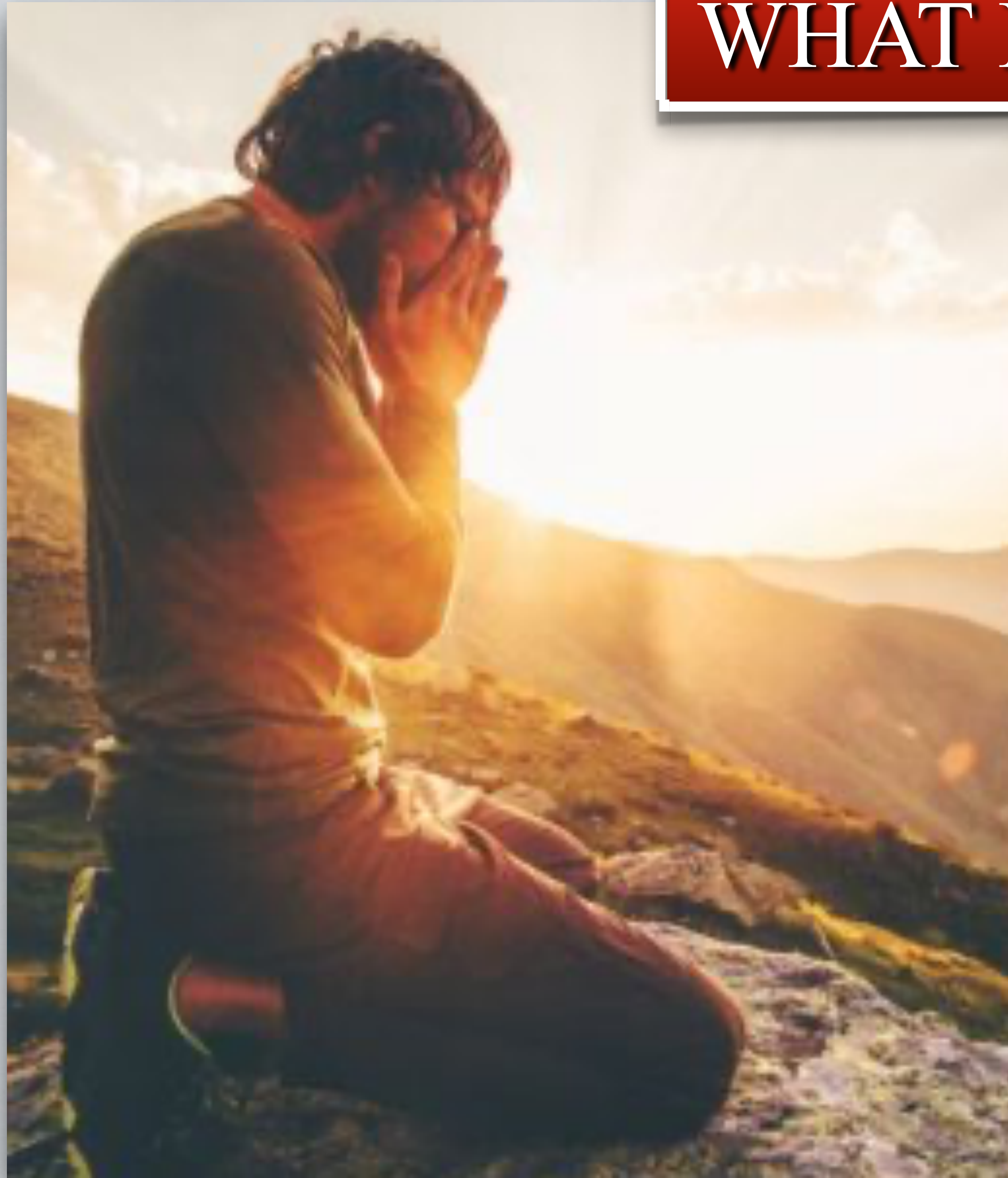
- ▶ What I am willing to sacrifice to find and hold to truth (Proverbs 23:23)
- ▶ How much time I spend reading and studying God's word (Ps. 119:97; Jn. 17:17; Acts 17:11,12; 2 Tim 2:15)
- ▶ My willingness to accept it and follow it (John 7:17; 8:31,32; 1 Peter 1:22,23)
- ▶ My willingness to forfeit the truth due to it not being what I want (Rom. 1:18-32; 2 Thes. 2:10-12)
- ▶ My attitude towards error (Ps. 119:104)



ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

WHAT IS MY ATTITUDE TOWARDS ERROR?



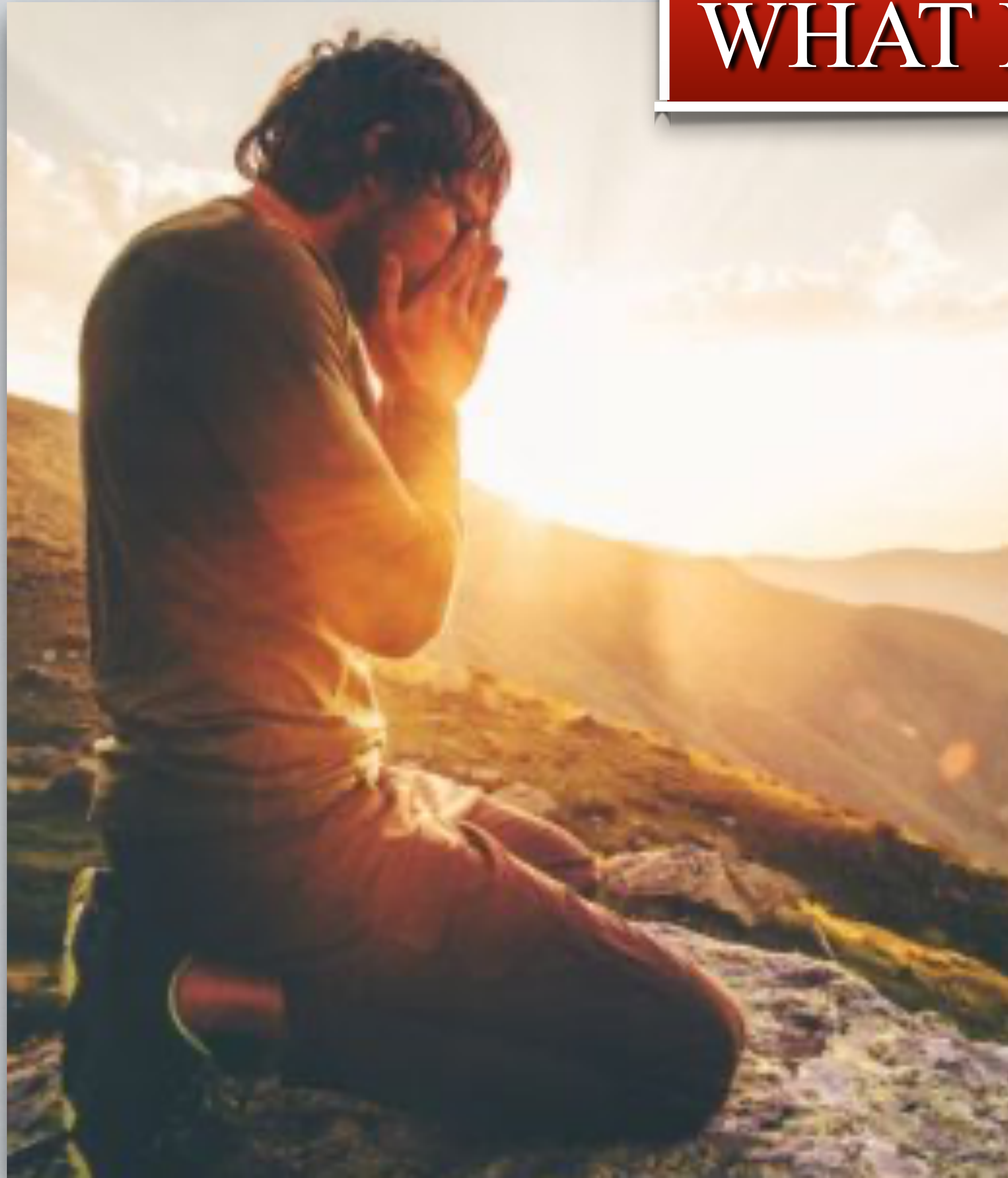
■ ATTITUDES WE SHOULD HAVE:

- ▶ **HATE** ERROR (WICKEDNESS) (Ps. 119:104; 128; Ps. 36:4; 97:10; Pr. 8:13; Ro. 12:9)
- ▶ **EXPOSE** ERROR and warn others of its danger & consequences (Mat. 15:7-9, 13, 14; Acts 9:29; Eph. 5:11, 13; 1 Tim. 1:20; 2 Tim. 2:17; Titus 1:3)
- ▶ **AVOID** any appearance of **support or involvement** in ERROR (2 Tim. 2:16; 1 Ti. 4:7; 6:20. Tit. 1:14; 3:9; Rom. 1:32; 2 Jn. 9, 10)

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

WHAT IS MY ATTITUDE TOWARDS ERROR?



■ MANIFESTED BY:

- ▶ My neglect of reading and studying God's word (Ps. 50:17; Prov. 1:29; 2 Thes. 2:10-12)
- ▶ My unwillingness to accept the truth when presented to me (John 3:19,20)
- ▶ My willingness to provide for the unchallenged presentation of error (Acts 15:2; Gal. 2:5)
- ▶ My willingness to suppress the truth (Rom. 1:18,19)

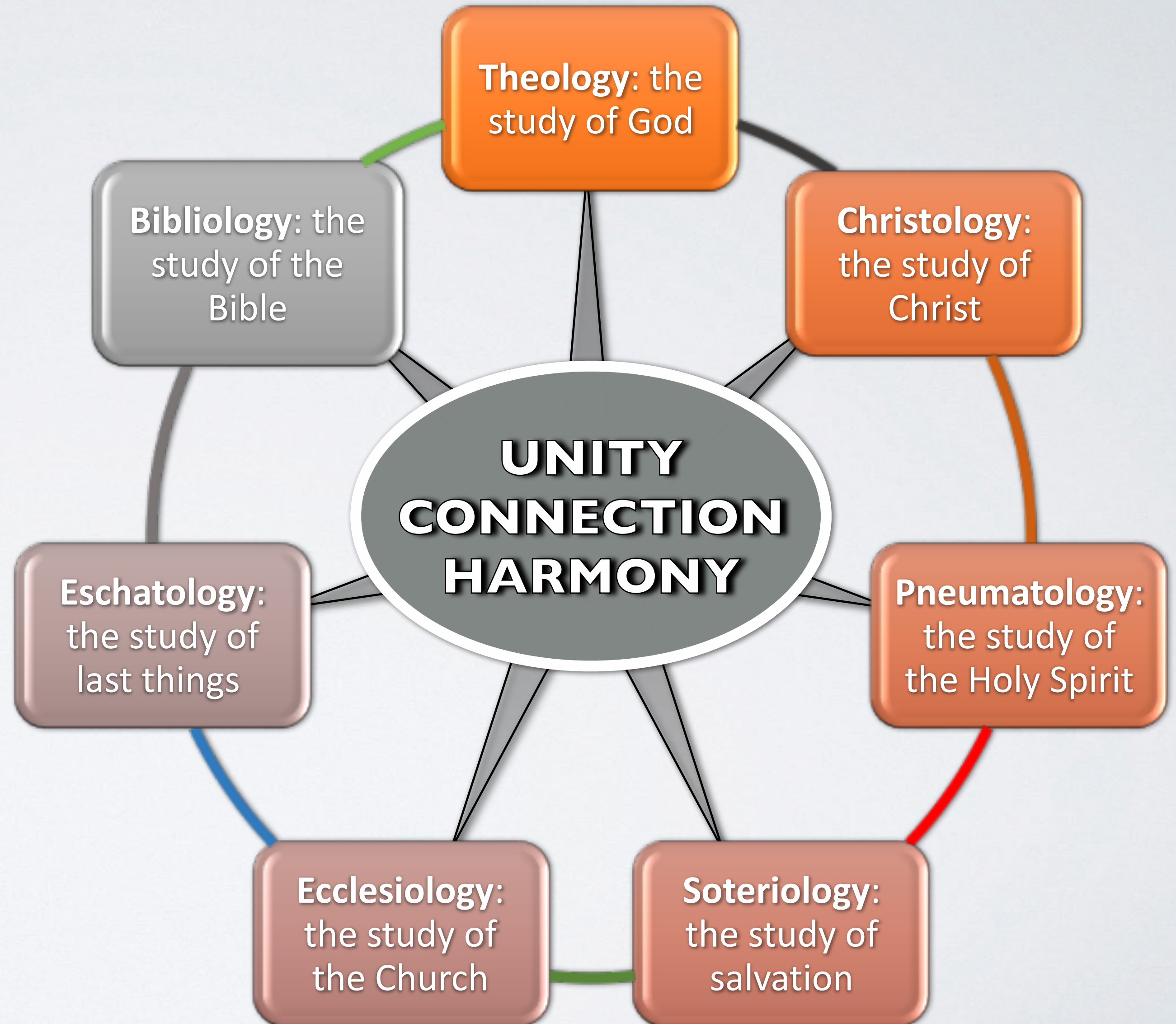
ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

PERVASIVENESS OF ERROR

TRUTH PERFECTLY
HARMONIZES.

If we ALTER one aspect of the TRUTH, that one alteration will affect every other aspect of truth to some degree.



ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

THE PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF ERROR

The Law of LOGICAL EXTENSION

**We interpret other
passages in light of
the error we accept**

**We move further
and further away
from God.**

**We set a course for
complete apostasy!**

ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR



ERROR & CONSEQUENCES

Will result in the perversion
of other scriptures resulting
in the acceptance of more
and more error.

2 Tim. 3:13

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR



ERROR & CONSEQUENCES

Will make one's
worship & service
to God unacceptable.
Matt. 15:7-9

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR



ERROR & CONSEQUENCES

Will lead to
ungodly living.
We will NEVER live
above our beliefs
Rom. 1:18-32

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR



ERROR & CONSEQUENCES

The adherence to
doctrinal error brings
bondage and **death**.

2 Thes. 2:10-12; 2 Pet. 2:18-22; John 8:32-34

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

HOW TO DISCERN TRUTH FROM ERROR?



2 Corinthians 11:3–4 (NKJV)

³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. ⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or *if* you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

HOW TO DISCERN TRUTH FROM ERROR?



Colossians 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸ Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

HOW TO DISCERN TRUTH FROM ERROR?



1 John 4:6 (NKJV)

⁶ We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

HOW TO DISCERN TRUTH FROM ERROR?



- **All TRUTH has been revealed, recorded & preserved** (John 16:13; 2 Tim. 3:16,17; Eph. 3:3-5; 1 Pet. 1:24,25)
- **If you can't find a doctrine or practice taught in the Bible, then it is NOT the truth** (Deut. 4:2; Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7; Rev. 22:18,19)

ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. — 2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

TRUTH	ERROR
LOVE / VALUE	HATE / DESPISE
HUNGER / SEEK	LOATHE / REJECT
HOLD / ABIDE	DISCARD / FLEE FROM
DEFEND / PROMOTE	EXPOSE / FIGHT AGAINST

ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. — 2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

IF WE RESPECT, BELIEVE & LOVE GOD ...



- ▶ We will LOVE the truth and HATE all that is contrary to it!
- ▶ We will seek the TRUTH and embrace it, and spurn error and reject it!
- ▶ We will defend the TRUTH and proclaim it, but expose error and seek to defeat it!

ATTITUDE

TOWARD TRUTH & ERROR

GOD HATES ERROR & SO SHOULD WE

**We should have the same
attitude towards ERROR Jesus
does!**

Hate it & Resist it

Fight against it

Be separate from it

Help others overcome it



Revelation 2:15–16 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. ¹⁶ Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

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Our Attitude Towards

TRUTH & ERROR MATTERS

(Psalm 119:97-104; Matthew 15:7-9; 2 Peter 2; 2 John 9; Jude 3)

**In order to be pleasing to God, we must seek the truth,
accept the truth, love the truth and obey the truth**

(Rom. 2:5-11; Gal. 3:1; 5:7; 1 Pet. 1:22,23)

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(Psalm 119:97-104; Matthew 15:7-9; 2 Peter 2; 2 John 9; Jude 3)

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Jeremiah 14:11–16 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then the Lord said to me, “Do not pray for this people, for *their* good. ¹² When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them. But I will consume them by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.” ¹³ Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, the prophets say to them, ‘You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine, but I will give you assured peace in this place.’ ” ¹⁴ And the Lord said to me, “The prophets prophesy lies in My name.

Jeremiah 14:11–16 (NKJV)

I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart. ¹⁵ Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the prophets who prophesy in My name, whom I did not send, and who say, ‘Sword and famine shall not be in this land’—‘By sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed! ¹⁶ And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; they will have no one to bury them—they nor their wives, their sons nor their daughters—for I will pour their wickedness on them.’