**WHAT MUST OUR ATTITUDE BE TOWARDS ERROR?**

**2 John 7 – 11**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. The church is becoming more lax in its attitude toward error, both in and out of the church.

 A. Too many are willing to compromise.

3. Elders and preachers may be afraid to take a stand on anything or some things.

A. Perhaps, they are afraid of losing friends, offend relatives and become unpopular.

4. Notwithstanding, it must be clearly understood…there is ***NO*** Saving POWER in error!!

A. It is like poisoned food/contaminated water: fills the hunger/thirst, to ultimately destroy.

**BODY:**

**1. THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD**

A. Literally the church is the "called out" from the world.

1. As the church, [we] are therefore separate from the world and worldliness.

2. We are in the world, but ***NOT*** of the world (Jn 18:36).

3. We can ***NOT*** isolate ourselves (Lk 19:10), **BUT** shun the evils of the world.

B. The terms used to describe the church helps us to see its position in the world.

1. Light and salt (Mt 5:14 – 16) / Saints (1 Cor 1:2; Tit 2:14; 1 Pet 2:9).

2. Glorious church (Eph 5:25 – 27).

C. The fight of the church today is both inward and outward.

1. [We] must have the proper attitude. “What Must Be Our Attitude Toward Error”?

 A. Without a doubt, [we] need to look to God’s Word to confirm the answer.

**2. WHAT IS GOD’S ATTITUDE?**

 A. God is against those who teach error (Jer 23:30 – 32; Rom 16:17).

 1. He demands His children condemn error (2 Tim 4:1, 2)!!

 2. He demands we not endorse those in error (2 Jn 9 – 11)!!

 3. He demands we test preachers (1 Jn 4:1)!!

 4. He pronounces a curse upon those who teach error (Gal 1:6 – 10)!!

**3. WHAT IS CHRIST’S ATTITUDE?** Mt 7:15; 15:7 – 9

A. Although speaking primarily concerning the writings of the book of Revelation, we find the whole principle summed up in the closing few verses of the book (Rev 22:18, 19).

**4. OUR ATTITUDE MUST BE DETERMINED BY THE TRUTH**

A. Do [we] love God's Word? (Gal 4:16) / Do [we] love the truth? (Jn 8:32; 14:6, 15; 17:17)

1. Psa 119:11, 104; Pro 23:23; Jer 20:9

C. Paul loved the truth and it is seen in his life (Ac 17:16, 17, 22, 23).

 1. To please, God [we] must also love the truth and it must be seen in our lives.

**5. TRUTH AND ERROR DO NOT HARMONIZE (**2 Cor 6:14 – 18)

A. Moses did two things in this passage (Exo 32:26):

1. Established lines of distinction by obeying God; condemned by God’s Command.

B. If [we] are ***NOT*** in harmony, [we] have ***NO*** agreement (Am 3:3; Dan 6:4, 5; Ac 13:10).

**6. THE CAUSE OF CHRIST WILL MAKE PROGRESS WITH RIGHT ATTITUDE**

A. The early Restoration Movement (like a giant army) made progress by conquering all of its foes. As more life came to the Movement, denominational life slowed down.

B. On the other hand, by digressing and compromising, the Restoration Movement lost their quality of [sound] ground.

1. The results of this are various religious movements today bordering on being the one, [true] church. Thus, as far as eventually became – on the border.

C. As the church, [we] need to maintain the proper and appropriate attitude; by taking a stand upon the firm foundation, ***NO*** matter how difficult it may become. We must...

1. Stand against error, digression and against worldliness in all forms!!