

Doctrine Or Teaching In The Bible

The only word in the Old Testament that the R.S.V. as well as the K.J.V. renders 'DOCTRINE' is **leqah** = '**instruction**', literally '**what is received**'; see following DEUTERONOMY 32:2; JOB 11:4; PROVERBS 4:2; ISAIAH 29:24.

In the New Testament 'DOCTRINE' stands once for **logos** (HEBREWS 6:1 - K.J.V.; but cf. R.S.V.), otherwise for **didache** and **didaskalia**, of which the former denotes especially the act of teaching, the latter the thing that is taught. For **didaskalia** the R.S.V. has usually retained 'DOCTRINE' of K.J.V., but in the case of **didache** has almost invariably substituted 'TEACHING'.

It is noteworthy that **didaskalia** is never used of the teaching of Jesus, always **didache**; also that **didaskalia** is found chiefly in the Pastoral Epistles, and outside of these, with two exceptions; ROMANS 12:7; ROMANS 15:4, is used in a disparaging sense; MATTHEW 15:9; MARK 7:7; EPHESIANS 4:14; COLOSSIANS 2:22. This is in keeping with the distinction between **didache** as 'TEACHING' and **didaskalia** as 'DOCTRINE'.

It reminds us that at first there were no formulations of Christian belief. The immediate disciples of Jesus had the Living Word Himself; the earliest generation of Christians, the inspired utterances of Apostles and other Spirit-filled men.

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 -

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, - RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH". (*best translation is: "correctly handling the word of truth" - author's addition*)

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 -

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God (*or God breathed - THEOPNEUSTOS*;) and is profitable for DOCTRINE, for reproof, for correction, for instruction-in righteousness...

PROVERBS 30:5,6 -

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."

MATTHEW 4:14 -

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God".

DEUTERONOMY 4:2 -

"Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you".

ISAIAH 28:10 – How should Christians study God's Word?

"For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little..."

JOSHUA 1:8 -

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success"

PROVERBS 3:5,6 -

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding, In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths".

ISAIAH 28:9 -

"Whom shall he teach knowledge and whom shall he make to understand DOCTRINE? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts".

1 PETER 2:2 -

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby..."

HEBREWS 5:12-14 -

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercized to discern both good and evil".

HEBREWS 6:1 –

"...the principles of the DOCTRINE OF CHRIST"

JOHN 7:17 -

"If any man will do his will, he shall know of THE DOCTRINE, whether it be of God..."

1 TIMOTHY 6:3 -

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the DOCTRINE WHICH IS ACCORDING TO GODLINESS;

2 JOHN 1:9-11 -

"Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST, hath not God. He that abideth in THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not THIS DOCTRINE, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed; For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds".

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3,4 -

"For I delivered unto you first of all. that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried and rose again the third day according to the scriptures".

MATTHEW 11:29,30 -

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light".

PHILIPPIANS 1:9,10 -

"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in all judgment (or discernment)* That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ";

2 TIMOTHY 4:2-4 -

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and DOCTRINE. For the time will come when they will not endure SOUND DOCTRINE; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers., having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

1 TIMOTHY 1:3 -

"....that thou mightest charge some that they TEACH NO OTHER DOCTRINE."