

## **Why is it important to know doctrine?**

**Doctrine** - Is a code of beliefs or a body of teachings or instructions

**Christian Doctrine** - Refers to the body of teaching that is Christianity

### **Rom. 6:17**

17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.

### **1 Tim. 4:16**

16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

### **How do we form our doctrine?**

- By what you see, hear, feel or by what the world says

### **The Problem**

- We are tainted by our sin nature and we are in a sinful world

**The Importance of Christian Formation** (The reshaping of our lens)

- Personal time with the Lord
- Small groups
- One-on-one times
- Teaching on Sunday

**Biblical Theology** - Seeks to understand a certain passage in the Bible in light of all of the biblical history leading up to it and later biblical references to that passage.

**Systematic Study** - Attempts to formulate an orderly, rational, and coherent account of the Christian faith and beliefs

**Exegesis** - ('to lead out') is a critical explanation or interpretation of a text.

### **Eschatology**

meaning "last" and -logy meaning "the study of"

### **Dispensationalist**

Contends that the Bible cannot be properly understood apart from recognizing distinct periods or eras or dispensations in which the unfolding purpose of God and his relationship with mankind are revealed.

- Founding father, John Nelson Darby (1800-1882)
- This view was given strength in the 1900s
- Became the default dominant thinking of Evangelical Christianity.

- The Literal Interpretation of Scripture
- The Dichotomy Between Israel and the Church
- A Restricted View of the Church
- A Postponed Kingdom
- The Distinction Between Law and Grace
- The Pre-tribulation Rapture
- The Purpose of the Great Tribulation
- The Nature of the Millennial Reign of Christ
- The Eternal State
- Non-Lordship teaching

### **Overarching Influence**

Warren Wiersbe, Charles Stanley, Jack Van Impe, Chuck Swindoll, Billy Graham, Luis Palau, Bill Bright, James Dobson, Scofield Reference Bible, the Ryrie Study Bible and the Criswell Study Bible

### **College/Universities**

Grace College and Grace Theological Seminary, Dallas Theological Seminary, Philadelphia College of the Bible, Moody Bible Institute, Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, Denver Seminary, Western Seminary, Criswell Bible College, Biola University, Talbot Theological Seminary, Multnomah School of the Bible, William Tyndale College, Southeastern Bible College, Capital Biblical Seminary, Liberty University, and countless other schools as well as numerous denominational colleges and seminaries.

### **Para-church**

- Youth for Christ
- Young Life
- InterVarsity Fellowship (less so than the others)
- Campus Crusade for Christ
- The Navigators

### **Books that have influence culture**

- The Late Great Planet Earth, Hal Lindsay
- Left Behind series, Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins

### **The starting point of Eschatology**

### **The Resurrection**

**Acts 2:24** But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

### **Why was it impossible for Jesus to remain dead?**

### **The Resurrection**

The authors wanted the resurrection to be the interpretive tool to how you live now and how you will live.

### **Kingdom**

## **Is God's kingdom coming or is it here?**

### **•Matthew 4:17**

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

### **•Matthew 6:10**

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

### **•Matthew 6:33**

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

### **•Matthew 11:12**

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.

### **•Matthew 12:28**

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

### **•Matthew 16:28**

"Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

### **•Matthew 21:31**

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you."

### **•Luke 17:20**

The Coming of the Kingdom of God ] Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst."

### **Let's Ponder**

1. The Kingdom is not primarily a place but the focus is rule/reign. Primarily in the hearts of men.

**Matthew 12:28** But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

**Luke 17:20** Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation,

2. It is a place. The rule of God happens in times and places. Wherever Gods

people are and they are about God's business; his kingdom is coming (in that time and in that place).

3. It is here.
4. It is yet to Come.

### **How does this affect us today**

#### **Let us Ponder:**

1. Reclamation Hope
2. Reclamation a Missional Posture
3. Reminds the World of God's New World through the testimony of Gods people

### **What is our place in bringing new creation?**

It is a gift

**Revelation 22:1-5** Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

### **Which Kingdom will you belong to?**