

Divisions Due to Truth (Doctrine)

Romans 16:17-19: The Governing Text

^{NKJ} Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple. For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.

Important Details of Romans 16:17

1. The *divisions** and *offenses*** (*hindrances*, NAS) were caused by persons in the assembly.

*the divisions = διχραστάσις / dichastasis as in 1Cor. 3:3 (M. text) and Gal. 5:20

**the offenses = σκάνδαλα / skandala = a snare, a stumbling-block

2. The information propagated by these was _____ to the doctrine (teaching) they had learned (via the Apostles or those taught by the Apostles).
3. The command is two-fold.

➤ First: “Keep-an-eye-on them” (NAS); lit., “skopein them,” “scope-in on them.”

➤ Second: “Avoid them,”: “keep on avoiding them” (ἐκκλίνω / ekkliino in the Present Tense, Active Voice, Imperative Mode).

OBVIOUSLY: YOU WOULD NOT INVITE THEM INTO THE PULPIT!

Applying Romans 16:17

- I. First, the Gospel: Leadership/fellowship must be incisively clear on the essence of the Gospel.

What are the essential elements of the Gospel? Let the text decide.

A. The Gospel must include the death, burial & _____ of Messiah

- Clearly stated in 1Cor. 15:1-4: NOTE THE PRIORITY OF _____.
- The resurrection priority _____, 15:17.
- The Gospel as preached in the early church included the resurrection.

Acts 2:22-32	Peter to the 1,000's at the Feast of Pentecost
Acts 3:13-15	Peter to the crowd at the Temple
Acts 4:8-10	Peter to the Sanhedrin
Acts 10:39-40	Peter to the house of Cornelius
Acts 13:26-31	Paul to the synagogue in Antioch (Pisidia)
Acts 17:1-3	Paul to the synagogue at Thessalonica
Acts 17:18, 30-33	Paul to the pagan intellectuals at Athens
Acts 26:22-23	Paul to King Agrippa

The text is _____: the resurrection is integral to the good news of salvation, the Gospel.

- B. What then did Jesus mean when on the cross, He said, "It is finished" (Perfect Tense, Passive Voice, Indicative Mode of τελειόω / teleioo)?

Answer A: It means that His part in the eternal contract between Him & the Father was complete/finished: He dies spiritually and physically.

Answer B: But the Father had yet to fulfill His part in the eternal contract, THE RESURRECTION, Heb. 13:20.

^{NKJ} 13:20 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant...

- C. GUARDING THE ESSENCE OF THE GOSPEL IS TO BE A #1 PRIORITY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH.

- II. Second: What other doctrines come under the purview of Romans 16:17?

(I know what Chester would say. Do you?)

“GOSPEL” IN THE N. T. (KJV, MAJORITY TEXT)

by Ron Merryman

VERB- ευαγγελιζω / euaggelizo - used 55 times

“to preach the gospel,” “to proclaim glad tidings”

NOUN- ευαγγελιον / euaggelion – used 77 times

“gospel,” “good news,” “gospel or good news of the kingdom,” “gospel of the grace of God,” “gospel of Christ,” “gospel of God,” etc.

Breakdown of Uses

	Gospels	Acts	Pauline	Others
Verb_____	11_____	15_____	22 _____	7_____
Noun_____	12_____	2_____	60 _____	3_____

IT IS OBVIOUS FROM USAGE ALONE THAT PAUL IS THE GREAT EXPOSITOR OF THE GOSPEL.

OBSERVE:

1. The full value of the death/resurrection of Jesus Christ is communicated to us by _____
– THIS BY GOD’S CHOICE.
2. The progressive revelation of redemption finds its final expression in the letters of Paul.
3. Such requires that we go to Paul’s writings for an accurate delineation of the details of the Gospel.