

I. The Importance of Bible Doctrine and Authority

If you have your Bibles this morning, I want you to turn back to Proverbs again, Chapter 4. This week, if you remember, we started Proverbs 4:1-4, and we began to look and develop, I think, probably the single greatest concept for not only churches today, but for also Christians today: the importance of Bible doctrine. We are going to take last week, this week, and next week, and really kind of put a three-part series together out of that passage here, because I think it is absolutely vital that we understand this.

I told you last week that in Ephesians 6:10-14, the job of the church, first and foremost, and the job of Christians is to take a stand. Ephesians chapter 6 talks about the whole armor of God, and we are told to put on the armor of God, and all the seven pieces of armor are listed there. It is a great chapter that talks about the fact that four times in the first couple of verses we are told to stand. I think churches today, along with God's people today, that is part of the problem. They do not want to know what to stand for.

We talked about Proverbs getting wisdom and understanding, and when you get it, we now know that it comes from what we began to look at last week: good doctrine. I explained for you how that is found in the Bible. We defined doctrine last week, probably in a way that we have never really done it before. We now know that the word doctrine means to teach, but not just a teaching on anything. Doctrine in the Bible represents a specific teaching that the Bible lays out. When we as God's people, or as a church, or me as a pastor, when we teach the Bible, when we lay out the Bible, whatever we do, it needs to be based on Bible doctrine, the truth of the Word of God.

We also learned last week that when you have Bible doctrine, when you have truth, the truth will divide itself away from error. That is the whole purpose of it. We talked about the great verse in 2 Timothy 2:15 where it says:

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.

That is the sole purpose of doctrine. The sole purpose of doctrine in the Bible is to give you a specific teaching that is God's concept of what He wants us to know as truth. Then when you take that, and you put it into your life, and you use it in everything else in your life, that doctrine will separate you from the error that is out there. Certainly, there is a lot of error out there.

We saw the defining passage in the New Testament, Matthew 7:28-29. We now see that Bible doctrine formed for us in that passage. It talked about Jesus and the scribes and the Pharisees, and how the people were astonished at His doctrine. They could not believe the things that He was teaching them because they had been in a situation for a long time that they were getting nothing but stale stuff. Nothing was really powered by God in all that they were getting. The scribes and the Pharisees and the Sadducees had entered into a kind of false teaching mode that

was keeping them completely away from the truth of God. Nothing is more refreshing to a thirsty soul than the truth of the Word of God. When they heard Jesus talk about the things that were in the Bible that the scribes and the Pharisees were not talking about anymore, the Bible says they were astonished at His doctrine. It goes on to say:

Matthew 7:29

For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

So by that passage, we get defined for us that doctrine in the Bible sets up what we call our final authority: the Word of God. We believe that to be the Bible that we hold.

I do not know why people have a tough time with that. When you stop and think about it, every issue that man faces comes down to that simple format of authority. Who is going to run what? All through history, history appears to be very complicated. When you put all the details in it, and you get looking at the history of Europe and all the conflicts, and the history of the Middle East and all the things that you look at, and you go back and you study the Crusades, and you study the Thirty Years' War, and the Hundred Years' War, and the War of the Roses, and you look at the French Revolution, and our own American Revolution. You look at the French and Indian War before the American Revolution, the Civil War, our Spanish-American War. You look at World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and right up into the Middle East war we have today. When you put them all together, folks, the reason for them is very simple. It comes down to one little thing. At the end of the day, when push comes to shove, who is going to run it? That is authority. Who is going to have the final say?

Of course, that is the problem all through it. When you start to work with people, you see it in families. The number one problem that families have is that there is no authority in the family. Many times the father will not take the responsibility of being the spiritual leader and taking the final authority of the Word of God and putting it into his family. When that does not happen, then we see the problem that we get into. It is a thing where many times the wife becomes the final authority. We have all seen examples of how that works. It does not work at all.

You see it in Christians' lives. When they get to a point in their life that they want to live a certain way, they will come to church, they will start to get disciplined, they will start to hear biblical doctrine. Then at some point in their life, they are faced with some things that they have got to change in their life. Maybe some relationships, maybe some things that they are doing. Now they are up against an authority, you see, and they have got to accept that authority as the final authority in their life. Some do, some do not. It is just that simple.

Many of you, when you raise teenagers and you get to that teenage years, the aspect of teenage rebellion is nothing more than a teenage boy or a girl rebelling against the established authority of the parents. That is the way it works. Every issue in life, I do not care where it is, it will be about authority. The Bible, the whole concept of the Bible, is over authority. There are two kingdoms in the Bible: the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. At the end of the day, in its basic form, it all comes down to who is going to run those kingdoms, one or the other, God or the devil. It is about authority.

Authority is something that you can never get away from in your life. Authority is something that is in every aspect of history, every aspect of churches, every aspect of our lives. As a matter of fact, when we are in grade school, there is an authority over you. When you are in high school, there is an authority over you. When you go to work someplace after you get out of school, there is an authority over you. Authority is always going to be something that is in our life, and it is the issue that we have to face.

Now let me just say this. You can have more than one authority in your life, but you can only have one final authority in your life. You can have many authorities in your life, but when it comes down to it at the end of the day, for us here anyhow, and I cannot speak for anybody else, our final authority for what we do is the Word of God. That is what we believe. The ability when you get God's wisdom and understanding to see and understand and to use the Bible as your final authority to rightly divide, as I said, truth from error.

We have talked about it many, many times. Life is choices, and we make good choices in life, and we make bad choices in life. We make choices in life that will ruin and wreck our lives. We make choices in life that will help us and give us a great life. It is just simple as that. On making those choices, it comes down by what authority you make those choices. When you are your own authority in your life, then you make choices based on that, and that is usually going to wind up in a bad scenario. When the Bible becomes the final authority of your life, then you make choices based on Bible doctrine, which separates truth from error and gives you the right choices to make.

Now I want to read Proverbs chapter 4 again, just to get familiar where we were last week, and then we will move through it here. I want to talk about the second installment of what we talked about last week, or began to talk about last week.

Proverbs 4:1-4

1 Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

3 For I was my father's son, tender, and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

We have been on a pursuit coming through Proverbs of seeing how you get God's wisdom and God's understanding, and now we know, it has been defined for us that the way that you do that is to get good doctrine. Now we know that that doctrine is found in the Word of God in the specific teachings that God wants to give us about every situation in life.

Let us pray. Father, we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus Christ. We love You. Thank You today for those that have come out. We pray for all those that are sick or traveling, and we just pray that You will give them journeyed mercies. We just love You, Lord, and thank You for our church and for the great people that are in it, and for the Word of God that You have given us. Help us today to leave here filled up and help us to come to the point where we really grow

and learn to love You more every day. We will thank You and praise You in Jesus' name for a sake we ask it. Amen.

II. The Death of Biblical Doctrine: Historical Context

Now, let me preface my remarks today that I am going to make. This is going to be somewhat, and I do not mean this in a wrong way, but I am not going to preach to you today in the sense of I am normally preaching. You have got to understand this. We talked about it last week, and we kind of laid a good foundation. Now I want to get you to the next level, so to speak, because you have got to understand this. I said it last week. There are messages that you need to hear in life, and there are messages that you better hear in life, and this is one of them.

This will be somewhat of a history lesson today, and yet I think it is absolutely vital. I will definitely try not to be boring as the guys that I read, some 200 of them probably over the years to amass the material and the Word of God that I have come to my own conclusions based on what the Bible says, but in its end, it was all worth it. I want to show you today your doctrinal roots. We now know that doctrine is vital. There is no question about that. Last week's message served that purpose. We also know that our job is to take a stand. We also know there will be a price to pay by taking that stand. We know that now. We want to talk today about our doctrinal roots. We want to understand leaving today why we are who we are as Bible-believing Christians.

To fully understand the importance or the impact of doctrine, I think it is absolutely important for me to take last week's message as we talked about it and then put it into a better context today and next week too, that we get a whole concept of what we want to understand about Bible doctrine.

Years ago, when American churches started to fall apart, and this would be around the turn of the 1900s, American churches, let me call it that. I am going to talk about Baptist churches because Baptist churches, that is what we are. I know we will talk about some other situations, but my focus today is on our roots. I want you to leave today understanding our doctrinal roots, what happened, how it got messed up, and why we are who we are and why we stand on what we stand today.

Years ago, when churches began to fall apart and began to move away from the Bible, there was a group that broke out from that. This will be back in the 1920s and the 1930s. Back around the 1900s, the Southern Baptist Convention was the largest contingency of Baptists in the world. There were only three basic groups back then. There was the Southern Baptist, which was the biggest. There was the GRB, which was the next largest. Then there was the American Baptist, that was the smaller group. That is all you had in America.

The Southern Baptist Convention began to go into apostasy. By 1920 and 1930, their chief Bible college, which was down in, I forget where it is at, Baylor, I think it is down there, they were actually teaching evolution in the Bible colleges. They were teaching their young seminary students that the stories in the Bible were not true, that Adam and Eve was a fable, that Noah's ark and the flood was a fable. They actually, Louisville is where it is at, Louisville, they were

actually teaching through all of their seminaries that the Bible was a book that could not be trusted. They turned out four or five generations of preachers who absolutely believed nothing about the Bible.

When that was all going on back in the 20s, there was one young man who took a stand. That young man's name was J. Frank Norris. J. Frank Norris had grown up in the Southern Baptist Convention. He was their fair-haired boy. He was a great preacher. But he would not put up with all the apostasy that was going on and where the Southern Baptist Convention was headed. Around 1920, 1925, somewhere in there, he left, he split and went from the Southern Baptist Convention. He took a group of people with him, a large contingency, but they were men and women who wanted to stay with the truth of the Bible. They were as sick of what was going on in the Southern Baptist Convention as he was. Immediately they began to hold to the truths of the Bible. They gave to Christianity a brand new term that had never been heard before. Because they had left the Southern Baptist Convention and wanted to stay with the absolute truths of the Bible, the fundamentals, they were called fundamentalists.

You hear that term a lot today. Most people do not know where it even comes from. In 1900, there were no fundamentalists around. The fundamentalist movement starts in the 1920s or 30s when J. Frank Norris is coming out of the Southern Baptist Convention because it is a mess. The American Baptists were already a mess. There is an American Baptist Church down in Florida that you could go to in Sarasota, Florida where you walk into the lobby. There is a statue of Jesus Christ. There is a statue of Buddha. And there is a statue of somebody else. You could take your pick who you want to worship. They were already shot.

But the Southern Baptist Convention went into apostasy. J. Frank Norris came out and he said, "We are going to stay with the fundamental truths of the Bible." Sometimes today, you hear them called conservatives. Sometimes today, you hear them called traditionalists. Sometimes they are called independents. The word independent means that the Southern Baptist Convention, they are part of a co-op program. All your offerings, everything that you do goes into the co-op. A Southern Baptist preacher does not have the right to get up and preach whatever he wants to preach to his church. Louisville sends him the messages and they all have to preach the same message. It has changed a little bit, but that is the way it was. The Sunday school teachers, they all get their curriculum from Louisville. Of course, Louisville is a mess. That is what J. Frank Norris, he wanted nothing to do with. So they broke out of that. So today they are called independent Baptists. Independent meaning they are independent of anybody telling them what they have to preach.

See where this comes from? These are things you have to know. These are things that in time, if you are going to do anything with what you have in Christ, you have to know these things. This is why when you go down the road and you will see these big modern churches today, a lot of Southern Baptist churches, a lot of evangelical churches, you will see on their marquees that they will have several different types of service. They will have a contemporary service. That will be at 9 o'clock. They will have a modern service. That will be at 10 o'clock. Then around 11, they will have a traditional service. How many have seen that? You see it all the time. You know what that means? That means that they are trying to give a service that will make everybody happy.

The traditional service will be for the older folks in the church who do not like the contemporary stuff. It is more worldly to them. They want the old style stuff that they are used to. So to please everybody and to make everybody happy, they will have two or three services that meet as they think everybody's needs. For the modern young crowd like you and the hip hop crowd, they will have the modern one. They will have this one over here. Then for us old fogeys who are sticking to muds and will not change, they have the traditional service. That is how it works. These are things you need to know.

I am not criticizing anything I say today. I am going to say some things today. But I am not criticizing anybody. I do not care. None of my business. But I think you need to know why things are the way they are. I want you to know why this church is the way that it is. We have got some older folks in our church who go back and their roots are into fundamentalism all the way back to J. Frank Norris. Were you guys related to Wendell Zimmerman in any way, shape or form? Did one of your kids marry one of his kids? Wendell Zimmerman was one of J. Frank Norris' boys. It was a thing where we have got people here who know exactly what I am talking about is the truth. Some of you younger kids, you have not been around that long. But I want you to know why things are the way they are. I want you to understand it. I want you to see it.

As noble a cause as that was when J. Frank Norris did what he tried to do, it never made it past 40 years or so without it going into apostasy. I am a very lucky guy. I count myself, and I have told you this before, I count myself as absolutely one of the most fortunate people on the planet. Because I actually, I was born in 1950. I actually saw the end of the fundamentalist movement. I actually saw the end of it and the beginning of this modern movement that we have today. I actually lived through the end of fundamentalism and into the age of the modern end. Here is the new word today: the progressive church scene. That is the new word, progressiveness. Progressiveness means we are progressing. That is what it means.

In politics, Obama, Joe Biden, this is not criticism. Obama, Harry Reid, Nancy Pelosi, they are all progressiveness. The progressive movement started in politics back with Woodrow Wilson in 1917 and 1918. It is a movement that progressively the country goes and progresses and becomes more modern and accepts new things as they come on the horizon. We will talk about that in a moment. But in churches, it is churches progressing to a worldly standard and a worldly concept.

I actually saw and heard the preachers of the last of what was called the old guard. I actually heard Bob Jones Sr. preach. I actually watched R.G. Lee preach the word of God several times. Victor Sears, Howard Sears, B.R. Lakin. These are men that most people today have no idea who they are. They were the last of the old guard. They were the men who held true to those Bible. They loved the word of God. They were never part of the modern movement. They disdained it with everything because they knew what it was. They stayed faithful to the preaching of the word of God all the days of their lives. Oliver Green was a great radio preacher. Many of you know him. J. Vernon McGee was another one. From time to time, you can still find their things on Christian radio, but not too often anymore. As they died off, the tide began to turn.

I told you last week that bad doctrine is likened to leaven. As they died off, the leaven began to come in. As I gave you last week, a little leaven leavened the whole lump. In about 20 years'

time, Bible believing Christianity had turned from the Bible. As Revelation 2:4 says about the church at Ephesus, they had left their first love and they turned into an apostate church. They dumped the Bible completely. They went to the progressive movement. I am going to show you how it happened. Because today I want to show you what happened. But I first want to set the scene so you can understand in a better way the death of biblical doctrine.

Now, let me start with it. These are going to be a series. I am not preaching today. If you are here and you are connected with any of this one way or the other, I am not preaching about it. I do not care. None of my business. I am not up here on some soapbox, ranting and raving like some preachers do. I am just giving you information. I am giving you truth about Bible doctrine. I want my church, you, to understand. Maybe you are here and you do not want to understand. That is okay. Just endure it. We have some underneath the seat in front of you. There are some wooden sticks. They use them all the time. Put them into your mouth and bite down on them like when they used to operate without anesthetic and you will get through the service.

In case you do not notice today, we are called. We are called because we believe the Bible is still the Word of God. Could you believe that? I mean, that is progressive for you, see, because progressiveness in churches is nothing more than what evolution is in the secular world. The world evolves. Churches evolve. You evolve. Theology evolves. No, it does not. We are called because we still believe that this Bible is the absolute Word of God. Yet, in 1900, 1850, 1860, everybody on the planet that was a Christian believed exactly what we believe today. You know how we got from there to here? Through progressiveness. They are getting rid of Bible doctrine.

Clarence Larkin. You can buy his book. It was written back there in about, oh, I do not know, 1902. I showed you the book that John found about the manuscript evidence. It was written around the same period of time. Arthur Pink, one of the greatest Bible expositors in a practical way that you will find. C.I. Scofield. Many people used to carry a Scofield Reference Bible all their lives. That is all they knew. He believed the Bible was the Word of God. Dwight Pentecost, another great Bible teacher. Sir Robert Dick Wilson. He wrote a book on the coming prince back in the end of the 1800s. The coming prince is a book about the Antichrist written around 1880, 1890. Nothing in print has ever surpassed his work on that coming of the Antichrist. You know what he believed? He believed exactly what I believed. Back then, everybody believed what we did. But because we have stayed true to that and everybody else has gotten progressive. See how it goes?

Now let me ask you some questions here. Who would have, 30, 40 years ago, who would have ever imagined that in America that there would be a time when a man would join himself to another man in holy matrimony? I am not preaching. This is not my preaching face. My preaching face is red, veins popping out, front row wearing raincoats to keep the spit from getting on him. I am not preaching. I am asking you a question. Who would have thought or ever imagined in America a time where a man would join himself in marriage to another man or a woman to another woman?

There are a lot of things that I am really confused about. I do not know how we can have that and say it is okay. When the laws on our books of our civil government, you hear it all the time,

somebody gets arrested for sodomy, Sodom and Gomorrah. The impact of the Bible even impacted the laws that we did. Yet state after state right now are debating the idea of same-sex marriage that a man marrying a man is a natural process and should be accepted. They are even bringing it on a level that if you do not accept gays and homosexuals that it is a discrimination like it was in the civil rights movement which was definitely discrimination. But now they are trying to put a man with a man and a woman with a woman in the same context that that is some kind of discrimination because it should be accepted.

I know God has a sense of humor. I know that because every morning I look in the mirror. You know what I just love? I love the fact that Russia, a godless country, Iran, a godless country, and atheistic countries who hate the Bible, hate Christians, but they take a stand and they know that homosexuality is wrong. America who is supposed to be the Christian nation thinks it is okay. I am not preaching. Do I look like I am preaching? No. I am not preaching. Anybody wet in the front row? No. I am asking these questions. These are questions. I am asking you. I am asking myself.

But see, 30, 40, 50 years ago the Bible doctrine was still very clear on the issue. There was no issue about it. Romans 1:26-27, I am not preaching, but Romans 1:26-27, it says:

Romans 1:26-27

26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Now I know everybody says you interpret the Bible any way you want. How many ways is there to interpret that? I am confused. Do I look confused? I am confused. In the Old Testament, go sometime to 2 Samuel 23. Not right now, but write it down. Go to 2 Samuel 23 sometime and read the whole chapter and see what happened when the Sodomites came into the land and were accepted as a natural lifestyle with the nation of Israel. Just do it.

Now I do not like to use this word, but the word faggot. We do not hear it much today, but the word faggot was a term that was used, and I am not trying to be offensive to anybody. I am trying to educate you. If you can sit through a sex education class and they say graphic and you say, "Oh that is wonderful," then you are going to love this. The word faggot. That is a French word. It is not some gutter word that was found that somebody just made up. That is a French word, and it meant sticks that were bundled together that were burnt into a fire. Somebody, I do not know who it was. Certainly it was not me. Do not look at me this way for? I am not preaching. Somebody understood enough that saw those sticks being bundled up and being burned in a fire, equated it to somebody that was living an unseemly lifestyle that being bundled up and burned in the fires of hell. Somebody figured it out. It was not me. Now I do not use the word, but I know where it started.

How do you get past Genesis 18 or 19 with Sodom and Gomorrah? Yet I will tell you how they get by. They say that God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah back then because of a lack of hospitality. I am confused. But that is not the worst part. I mean that is bad enough. But the worst part is not even our government going that way, but the worst part is Christianity is going that way. The Episcopalian church, the Methodist church, the Lutherans, I am not preaching. I am telling you the truth. I want you to understand where this all comes from, the Presbyterians. They accept gay and lesbian pastors. They perform gay and lesbian marriages. They accept it as a normal lifestyle. They will go over there and one of the greatest passages in the Bible about David and Jonathan. David and Jonathan is one of the greatest stories in the Bible showing you what kind of relationships you should have with Christ. Jonathan as you, David as Christ, and he will make that as David and Jonathan had a homosexual relationship and then justify theirs. Is Romans chapter one? I am just asking. I am just asking.

Now the answer why, and I know the answer why, the answer why is simple. No Bible doctrine anymore. It is dead. Nobody has the truth. Now it gets into our churches and because there is no doctrine, nobody follows the Bible as truth anymore. Nothing divides anything out that is wrong from what is right. So there is no right or wrong anymore. It is just everybody gets together.

Now I got another question. In the 1920s, there was a name by the name of Billy Sunday. Billy Sunday single-handedly by the preaching of a King James 1611 Authorized Version brought about prohibition. Proclamation was no alcohol in the United States of America. It went in, in fact, under the 18th Amendment in 1920 and stayed until 1933 when FDR took it out. Now one man had the courage to stand and had a final authority to stand on and he preached and he changed a whole nation through the power of his preaching. Boy did he pay a price.

How many saw a couple of weeks ago on TV, it was on about 10:30, 11 o'clock, the movie Elmer Gantry. One saw it. I watch it every time it comes on. Most people look at it and they say Elmer Gantry, a Burt Lancaster man. That is not hip-hop brother. I am not into that. I am into the modernity. I am into Justin Beebe or whatever his name is. Justin Beebe is what it should be. But anyway, Elmer Gantry, that is a movie about a female evangelist and a crooked male evangelist who preach against liquor when all the time they are in sin and immorality themselves. It was made by a drunk by the name of Sinclair Lewis who made it specifically to counter what Billy Sunday was doing. So the next time you get a chance to watch it, you have got to watch it. I am giving you, I am broadening your horizons here. Boy, he paid a price for it.

Back then the Bible believers, they knew their Bible. They did not believe for a moment that Jesus drank fermented wine. They did not believe in John 10 that when He changed the water to the wine, it was fermented hooch. They understood the doctrine of Deuteronomy 32 of the two types of wine in the Bible. They understood that. There was no confusion on it back then. There is a lot of confusion on it now, but there was not back then. But now that is all changed. What happened? The churches in this city where the pastor stands in the pulpit and says social drinking is okay. He equates it to social drinking no different than playing video games. The whole congregation says amen. There are these churches, they hold Bible study around wine tasting parties. The pastor will post his picture on his favorite Facebook or MySpace or in your face or

whatever it is of the favorite wine he likes to drink and have little discussions about it. They have beer making clubs in churches now in case you did not know that.

Now here is my question. I do not care. None of my business. I am certainly not preaching. But did I miss something? Was Billy Sunday wrong? Is the Bible wrong on what it teaches? I mean the thousands and thousands and thousands of sermons and messages preached at the Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago to get the drunks and derelicts straightened out. There are thousands and hundreds of messages at the Azusa Street Mission in Los Angeles to get the drunks off the street. The city in the mission in our own city here. Were they wrong? Was the Brown Street Mission where I came from in Canton, Ohio? Were they wrong? Were all those messages in vain? What happened? How did it change that it was once wrong and we preached against it? Now we do not preach on it anymore and we accept it. I am confused. See the problem you are faced with as a Christian today, the problem you are faced like I gave you last week when there is no king in Israel, no authority, no final authority and every man just does what he wants to do. That is where we are at. That is exactly where we are at.

Now let me ask you another question. I cannot tell you the millions of lives that have been destroyed by gambling. For years in this country it was illegal. Why? Because of the devastating damage it causes in families, people's lives of getting addicted. Then the state gets into money trouble and around 1975 they come up with an idea called a lottery. I am not fighting it. Got my lottery ticket in my back pocket. They make millions of dollars off of tickets and taxes. Then that was not enough so they got the idea of putting in riverboat gambling. They vote on that. They have to put them on a river down there. Kansas City has got a couple of them. Kansas County has got some of them. The federal government legalizes gambling to make revenue saying that all the money that comes in is going to go to schools and going to go to fix the roads. Now see, there it is. There is the philosophy that the end justifies the means. I am not fighting it. I am not preaching anything. I am asking a question here. But here is the bottom line. I do not get it. They say, Bob Jones Sr., I said last week, said it was never right to do wrong to get the chance to do right. You see the same thing with Obamacare. Same philosophy. I am not fighting it. Here it is on the thing and he says, "Four million people who never had healthcare just signed up." On the other side, "Eight million people who had lost it." See how it works? I am not fighting it. I am just confused this morning. I am asking questions. I am.

Now for years we griped and complained and made fun of the Roman Catholic Church and its bingo parties. We all did. But now today there are churches in this city that have gambling ministries. At one time they set up 200 tables for a Bible study. Now they set up poker tables and they focus their ministry after celebrity poker on TV. I am not fighting it. I do not know how to play poker. I lose everything I got so I just stay away from it. Monopoly is as far as I will go. They have little gambling parties in their home. Poker practice parties. Of course they have their beer there too. Of course when you win, you have to donate your winnings to your favorite ministry in the church. Now that is no different than what the Catholics did that we complained about for so many years. I do not get it. I am not fighting it. It is none of my business. I am not. I am asking a question. I do not really care but what happened? How come the world used to do it and churches used to preach against it and now nobody preaches anymore and a church does

today exactly what the world did 30 years ago? That is my question. Can anybody explain that to me? Yet I know the answer. The answer is the death of biblical doctrine.

It used to be that a mother's womb was the safest place for a baby. Not anymore. There was a time when the world, the world, the world came up with the idea of getting an abortion. I will tell you right now that does not stay with the world because Christians do the exact same thing. The idea that we can sin and then have a baby and then so we can get out from under our sin, have an abortion, get rid of it so we can set what? Go out and sin some more. Where does that come from? Where does that come from?

We see it in our own country. In 1952, Harry Truman established the National Day of Prayer every year. In 1984, Ronald Reagan set the day as the first Thursday in May as the National Day of Prayer. In June 2007, presidential candidate Hussein Barack Obama decided that America was no longer and declared that America was no longer a Christian nation. In 2008, he canceled the 21st annual National Day of Prayer at the White House. The reason that he gave, here it comes, he did not want to offend anybody. But that next year in 2009, September 25th, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., he held a National Day of Prayer for Muslims at the White House and 50,000 showed up and he attended himself and took his shoes off so he would not offend anybody. Now what is going on here?

Now can anybody tell me how we got from the place where the founding fathers and Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence? When the founding fathers gave him that job and he brought it back, one of the founding fathers looked at it and he said, "This will never work. You only got one reference to God in here. We as a nation can never forget what God has done for us." So go back, rethink it, rewrite it and bring it back. So when Thomas Jefferson brought it back, he brought it back and added total of four places where they recognized God in the four basic fundamental concepts that you and I believe as Bible believers. Now why is it that your kids cannot read the Bible or pray in school? We just heard last year that our military men can no longer proselyte people and win them to Christ without severe penalties and teach the Bible. Why is it that your kids, my kids and our soldiers cannot do that but we give every Muslim a Quran and a prayer rug when they hit Guantanamo Bay? See how confusing it gets?

III. The Devil's Four Strategies Against Doctrine

Now I am going to show you the four things the devil did. I am going to show you the four things that the devil did. I want you to understand as my church what happened when the Philadelphia Church Age shut down and Sears and Pennies and Kmart opened up. I want you to get it and see how this thing works.

The first thing obviously was the rejection of the Word of God. The devil had to get rid of the Bible and the dumping of the King James Bible took place in 1888 in Sarasota, Florida when the Southern Baptist Convention officially dropped the King James Bible and adopted the brand new RSV that came out. That was the beginning. It had been accepted by all the scholars but the devil had to get rid of the Bible and that was the beginning of a bunch of authorities that came out that

did away with the final authority. He had to take away a final authority. He had to replace it with 500 authorities but they are all different and they are off of Greek New Testament that is corrupt and took in all the doctrine out. We do not have time to get into it today.

Let me show you what he did. Look at over at Matthew 13:33, a great little nugget hidden here in the Bible. Matthew chapter 13 in the parables. Here is what he did. I love the Bible because it is so relevant to history and you cannot look at any place in history and not see the relevance of how it worked. Now watch this.

Matthew 13:33

Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

Now look at that. We already know 1 Corinthians 5:6 says that a little leaven leavened the whole lump. Jesus warned us in Matthew 16:6:

Matthew 16:6

Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

See, leaven is bad doctrine. We know that now. False doctrine. Look at this, a woman. My, my, my. I wonder who that woman is. If you have been hanging out with us in Proverbs for very long, we talked about her in Proverbs chapter 2. We are going to talk about her again in chapter 5 and she will show up at our doorstep again in chapter 7. She is false religion. She is false teacher. She is false religion. She is the woman represented by the Babylon mystery religion, the mother of harlots in Revelation 17 and 18.

Now look there. Meal. Meal was made from wheat. In your Bible, wheat are a type of people. Now I want you to notice that the parable says that this woman took leaven, bad doctrine, and hid it into three measures of meal. What you have there is a picture of the church history coming up to the second coming of Christ and what the devil did by taking leaven, bad doctrine, through a woman, false religion, and hiding it in three measures of meal and in the process the whole lump was ruined. If you go back in history, you will find that there are three major groups that match up to these three measures of meal that got destroyed. The Russian Orthodox, the Greek Orthodox, and the Protestant churches that come out of the Reformation. There are your three groups, all destroyed because Galatians 5:9 says:

Galatians 5:9

A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

It is just that clear. Now getting that out of the way, we have talked about that many, many times.

IV. The Rise of Neo-Orthodoxy

Let me show you about the second thing that the devil brought in. This is called neo-orthodoxy. We have talked about it a few times, but never in the length that we are going to look at it now. Neo means new. Orthodoxy is the word that means standard of truth. When we talk about the Orthodox Jews, we are talking about the Jews that stayed true to the Old Testament. So now we are looking at a new word, neo-orthodoxy, meaning a new orthodoxy. This has its roots back in 1880 and 1900 to the religious libertarians or the Protestant modernists.

Its mission statement is simple. Here is what they believe: Change the Bible and churches and its message to keep up with society and adjust your church's teaching in a progressive sort of way. As the world goes, you adapt your teaching to it to be able to reach people. This is why they are the ones who brought up the idea of women pastors. It is evolution in your theology. This is why they will accept homosexual and lesbians as a legitimate lifestyle. They will allow them to be pastors. They will allow them to be deacons. It is a mixture of Freudian psychology and watered down Bible to get all the differences out. There is no doctrine. It is not about doctrine. It is about looking at the world and we are a church. We want to reach people.

So in a milder form, what we would do is we would say, "Let us have a gambling ministry." We go as far as volleyball. We are safe there. But you see, when you are progressive, you realize that this is where the people are. They are in the bars. So you want to get the people out of the bars and get them into the church, serving the same thing in your church that they are serving in the bars. You see, when you get away the difference, what you have got is what is in the bars is no good and what you have in the book is exactly what they need. But you are progressive now. So you bring them in. You bring the booze in. You bring the gambling in.

The Unity Universal Church based in East Lansing Mission in 1991. This was reported in the Zodiac News Service. They showed pornographic movies in their church. The people invited all their people in and the money they raised went to feed the poor. Now you want to pack out a church service? That is the way to do it. But the end justifies the means. No hard preaching on sin. In fact, there is no real sin anymore. No preaching on hell. No preaching on the judgment seat of Christ. No preaching on God's judgment. Nobody is negative. Negative goes out the door. Everybody is positive. You are positive, "I am a serial killer." "Oh, that is a positive thing. I am happy for you. I will tell you what. I understand your problem. You are a serial killer. You grew up in your home and all you had was oatmeal. Never got any cereal when you were a kid because your family was poor. So you are built to be a serial killer." I know that works. I do the same thing. "Well, we will accept you. Everybody is fine." "Well, I am a homosexual. I am a lesbian." "We are all God's children." No, you are not.

You see, the Bible doctrine that we hold to and other churches hold to, it separates out us. There will never be a gray area of what is wrong and what is right when you have Bible doctrine. That is the key. Neo-Orthodoxy says get rid of the Bible doctrine and bring everything up. Bring everybody together. Get rid of all the differences and let the church become progressive. Let it move with the world. Whenever the world goes, make sure the church is there. This is exactly what they did. And they destroyed Bible doctrine.

V. The Rise of Neo-Evangelicalism

The third thing was another new system that came in around the turn of the century. It is called neo-evangelicalism. This is called new evangelism. I do not know what was wrong with the old one, but they wanted a new one. Simply it is a movement. It starts around 1860 and it moves up to the 1900s and on in. This is what, all this is what destroyed the Southern Baptist Convention. They bring Christianity back into an accredited form of thought. Let me translate that for you. They take the Bible out of your hands as a common man, me, and put it back where it belongs with scholarship. Then they tell us what it believes.

So when you ask somebody and teach a Bible study, you will hear them say it all the time, "Well, in the Greek it does not say that." You will go to Bible college and one Greek professional will tell you this and another Greek professional will tell you this. When you say, "Well, you guys, it does not, how do I know exactly that that is right, is what that is what it means?" You know what it will tell you? "Because I just told you." He becomes your final authority. You do not need anything to understand this book. This book was written in a fourth grade language in English, the King's English. It was put out in a time when the English language is as perfect as it could ever get. It is inspired by God, preserved by God, given down to you and you do not need anything but somebody wants to take this out of your hand. You know why? Because the most powerful thing in the world is a common man with a common Bible.

When neo-evangelicalism came in they wanted to take that from you and it was a reconstruction of Bible theology. Doctrine which was the counter to the Philadelphia church age to bring in the Laodicean church of 1900. A shift from hard Bible preaching on doctrine or issues and dividing people on truth to a mindset that we are going to teach now. We go to the fact that salvation is the most important thing. Do not let somebody not get saved just because of the fact that they may be messed up on a doctrine over here or not understand this doctrine. Salvation is number one. No, salvation is not number one in the Bible. Truth is number one in the Bible. He says the number one thing in 2 Timothy 2:15 that the Bible was profitable for was not salvation. The first thing was doctrine. If your doctrine is messed up everything else is going to be messed up.

I will tell you the greatest example. I am not preaching. This is not a criticism. I like the guy. But the greatest example of that in our modern day is Billy Graham. John Broussquet has got a tape back there of Billy Graham preaching back in the early, late 40s, 50s. I heard him preaching, seeing videos of him preaching back in the early, early, early 50s. I mean he is sweating. I mean his hair is all just, he is all over the place. He is preaching the hell out of them. He is painting the sin as black as it can be. You know what? He started out as a Baptist. He is not a Baptist anymore. But he started out as a Baptist. We have a lot of books back there by Pete Ruckman. Him and Pete Ruckman were buddies. He wanted Pete Ruckman to go with him and get into an evangelist's concept because Ruckman was an evangelist. But Ruckman was not going to do it because Ruckman saw the way it was going and he went his way and Billy Graham went his way. He did great enough in the 50s and up through maybe even the early 60s. But then some money bag people got into the thing and they said, "Billy, you know what? You are a great preacher. You got a great message. You just need somebody to get behind you and really put this thing together." He fell for it. He said, "Wow." You see, God's Holy Spirit getting him the places to preach was not good enough. Money talks, brother.

Now he comes to the place where they are going to rent out ball arenas. They are going to rent out stadiums. They are going to rent out this. "Billy, 200,000 people will come." Then somebody said to him, "But Bradley, we are going to get behind you. We are going to do all this. You have got to tone down your preaching. You look like a madman up there. Nobody is going to come to hear somebody like that. You say too many things that offend people. You preach things that do not." That was in the 60s and the 70s. It was 10 years ago, 10 years ago. Now Billy Graham is not sure there is a hell anymore. He thinks the Mohammed was a great Christian. He wrote the Pope John of the second was the greatest Christian in the 20th century. See he quit being a Baptist and now he is progressive. That is how it goes. It is exactly how it goes. It is a thing where it is just the way it works.

This is where Baptist churches have gone today for the most part. They are an evangelical movement. Some of them keep the name Baptist. Most of them take the name off. You will find that they will switch now and now they are called Christian churches, community churches, Bible churches, church chapel, Christ Chapel, family centers, everything but anything to not. I am saying some of them are not good but I am saying they want to move away from anything that has any kind of doctrine that will divide because the goal today is to reach everybody by getting everybody together. The Bible's goal is to separate everybody and then take the ones who want to do what is right. I mean I asked you last week when did Jesus ever cut, toned down, change his message, water it down so he could reach anybody. The term "my way or the highway" started in the Gospels. He said narrow is the way and straight is the gate. I think it is just the way it works. These two main groups have been the main issues that destroy doctrine and it took Baptist churches that were good strong churches off the grid as far as having any power. They took the Bible away. They had no truth. They brought in neo-orthodoxy and they married themselves to the world. Then of course they got into neo-evangelicalism and they took the doctrine out. Now Christianity is just like the nation of Israel with 606 BC before they went into captivity. They are a mess. All Baptist churches today for the most part other than the exceptions of some that hang true with the Bible, some of them dump the name, some of them keep the name but they all follow into this. It is taught in every circle to pastors. The way you reach people is to stop preaching hard and start teaching and reaching out and accepting everybody. It absolutely is what they do today and I do not know how to tell you.

VI. The Charismatic Movement

Now the last one put the icing on the cake. We have looked at three of them so far, three things. The last one put the icing on the cake. This is the beauty of Thursday night Bible study and how God puts them all together because we really talked about this Thursday night when somebody asked the question and this one is the Charismatic movement. Now the word Charismatic is a Greek word and it means gifted. It means that whoever is pulled to this teaching is gifted more than you or me.

Let me say this. I understand that you can be neo-orthodox or neo-evangelical and still be looked at as something fairly legitimate. I do not mean this in a wrong way. I really do not and do not take this in the wrong way and I am just telling you. I will be glad to sit down with you or you

can whatever you want to do. I do not know where you are at today with everything but I am telling you, you have to really work it hard at having some kind of credibility to be a Charismatic today. You really do. I mean you do. Whoever was a group who had no credibility, whatever, it is the Charismatic movement. I know when you start talking like that, people get mad. I understand. I understand but I am not preaching. If I was preaching it, then you can get mad. It is not preaching. I am just telling you the truth.

I mean when you claim to be a Charismatic, you just have announced to the world that you do not understand some basic things. I have dealt with Charismatics. I have right now Charismatics who are my good friends. We just do not talk about the Bible. We did it one time but it is a dead end streak. But they all have four characteristics. I have never met one who did not have these.

1. A total disregard for the Bible as their final authority. I teach you guys a three little word thing around here that is very doctrinal and very practical. It is simply called faith, fact, and feeling. I have faith. My faith is in facts, the Word of God, my final authority. My faith is in the facts of the Word of God. It produces the right feeling. You see, my emotions, my feelings are based on what the book says, not what I want to feel. There are people in my life that I may have a tendency not to like. But the facts tell me I have to love them so I have to adjust my attitude. There are things that I want to do in life that I would like to do. The book says you cannot do that as a Christian. So you know what? I adjust my appetite to the book. My faith is based on the facts and the facts produce what I feel. But a charismatic, along with a lot of other people, they have faith but they do not have any facts. So what do they operate on? Their feelings. That is the thing. They do not have a final authority. We went through 1 Corinthians 13, Thursday night in a way that if you cannot get it, you are stupid and a stump. I do not know what to tell you. Bottom line is simply this. It does not matter. It does not matter what the Bible says. I have had them tell me, "I do not care what the Bible says, you cannot deny my experience." Okay. Then you do not have faith, fact and feeling. You got faith and you got feelings but no facts. I never met one who had any kind of final authority in their life.
2. I will tell you something else. I never found one that ever had a complete and a total understanding of church history. I never understood it. No Charismatic is a serious Bible student. He could not lay out 1 Corinthians 12, 13 and 14 if you put a gun to his head. We talked about it the other night. They talked about an unknown tongue, the unknown tongue, the unknown tongue. I showed you in the Bible that the unknown tongue is put in words in italics. There was a Charismatic on planet earth, Venus, Mars or Saturn. Who knows why the word unknown is put in italics in your Bible. If they did, there would not be Charismatics anymore. But you know what? I got a Bible. That is doctrine. It divides truth from error. It lays out what God's specific teaching is on something. If you do not go with the facts, you go with your feelings. I am not mad at you. Go get a burger after church. I am with you. Come on down and restart. I will give you one of our famous hot dogs.

The Charismatic movement starts around 1900. It starts in Topeka, Kansas and then out to the Azusa Street Mission. It is picked up by the Full Gospel Business Association in the 20s and the 30s and here it is today. It is started by a woman, Amy McPherson Simpson. It is a complete

heresy from start to finish. Now neo-orthodoxy and neo-evangelicalism as goofy as they can be. They at least have their roots in Bible doctrine and they just went away from it. Not so with Charismatics. There is no foundation in what they believe. If they do not know church history, if they would know church history, they would know that they are always talking about the Book of Acts and then they are talking about what they do today. You could not find anybody on planet earth that believed what the Charismatic church believed today from 200 AD to 1900. You could go up through the Dark Ages from 500 to 1500. You go up through the Reformation 1500. You go to Philadelphia Church Age from 1600 to 1900. You could go through every period of church history. You could go down to every one of them, every man, every missionary, everybody was on this planet. There is not one person in the history of the world that you will find. I will give you a million dollars for everyone you find. They are not there. They do not know that because it is not built on facts. It is built on feelings.

Now many forms of the Charismatic movement. You have the Pentecostals. They based theirs on Acts 2. You have the full gospel. That means that you and I do not have the real gospel. We only got partial gospel. They believe you get saved and then you pray later and get all the Holy Spirit. You get the full gospel. You got called Berean Baptist. Sometimes they are called free will Baptist. They are Charismatic. Hard shell Baptist. They are Charismatic. The Rock, the River, all those places are Charismatic. IHOP, International House of Prayer. That is Charismatic. Sometimes you find Four Square Church. That is a Charismatic church. Four Square built on the four concept of Christ. He is Savior. His baptism, his healing and his soon coming king. So they call it a Four Square. My old grandma said never go to the Four Square Church. I said, "Why grandma?" She said, "Go to the church at the round table." I said, "Why?" "The devil cannot corner you there." My grandma was a wise woman.

They vary in their beliefs. Some of them preach in tongues. Some of them preach in unknown tongues. Some of them do spiritual dances. I had a lady a couple weeks ago came in to see me and she was getting all kinds of problems from her coming to our church here getting all kinds of problems from her mom and she is having some issues in her life and her mom kept beating her over the head and saying the reason why you do not get answered your prayer you are not doing your spiritual dances well. I know. Some of them believe in healing. Some of them believe in snake handling out of Mark 16. They all believe you can lose your salvation. You know there are many churches of God honestly and many assemblies of God that are really good people and they are pretty fundamental. They really are. But you get I mean they come in all I mean they come weird.

I am from Canton, Ohio. Canton, Ohio we had a large charismatic church there and this shows you how stupid it gets. Large charismatic church gets so weird that two guys opened up a full gospel gas station. Your car comes in and has burns oil. They lay hands on the engine and your oil is fixed. It does not burn oil anymore. I am not kidding you. Full gospel gas station and people went in there like they were getting free donuts. I do not know what to tell you. I went to one of the things one time and sat down there somebody invited me and I went I am good for anything. A guy got up gave a testimony talked about how a little daughter's cat got run over by a car and was dead and she was crying. He went in and laid his hand on it and that cat came back

to life. Everybody praising the Lord but me. I hate cats. That is not true. Skip her. Skip her. That is a private joke with my kids. They cannot tell you about it. I have to kill you.

VII. Conclusion: The Enduring Need for Doctrine

All of these four areas, every one of them had one sole purpose. They were started by the devil to take away Bible doctrine. I am not saying that all these people are demon possessed. Obviously that is not true. There are some very good people in it. If you got a grandma, you got a brother, an aunt or an uncle, an heir into that, I am in no way suggesting that they are demon possessed and they are lost. I am not. But I am telling you they are confused. The bottom line is doctrine is the bottom line. You cannot get away. All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable and the first thing it is profitable is doctrine. Doctrine separates truth from error. Doctrine lets you know and me know and this church know what we stand for.

In a world where everybody is progressive, in a world that everybody is absolutely going their own way, in a world where in churches there is no king in Israel and in a world where homosexuality is being accepted and pretty soon, I mean on the news, the big announcement is going to be so and so came out and made the announcement today. He came out of the closet. "Well, you did?" "Yeah, he did. He is straight." That is where it is going. As I said, go back to 2 Kings 23. Look what happened when it got accepted as a normal lifestyle with the nation of Israel and so goes Israel, so goes the church. Doctrine is what you have to have.

I am not trying to be mean about it. I do not care. What a church does is their own business. It is none of my business. I am not mad at anybody. But this is my church and I told you last week in the verse that I gave you in Timothy that the job of the church is to keep the doctrine that God gave you and you save yourself and then save others from getting caught up in the false doctrine. You have to understand that when you let leaven in, it takes over everything. That is where we are at. That is exactly what has taken place.

Next week when we get together, I am going to show you the main Bible doctrines that have been changed. The main Bible doctrines that churches once held to. That 150 years ago, they were absolutely bedrock on them. That 120 years ago, they were absolutely firm on them. Everybody, no matter what you were, some of the greatest Bible teaching, Bible preaching men you ever saw were Methodist. Sam Jones, Bob Jones Sr., they had doctrine. Why not today?

Martin Luther started the Lutheran church. When he started the Lutheran church, he broke with the Roman Catholic church over one issue, baptismal regeneration. Yet if you walk into any Lutheran church today, they teach baptismal regeneration. What happened from where Luther broke with it to how we got to where we are at? How did we regress? We are not progressing. We are regressing. He left because of that heresy and now he said, "The just shall live by faith." He himself got saved, started a great reformation that kicked the door open to the whole world trusting Christ as their own personal savior. Now that same church that he founded is right back to the heretical teaching that he left over. Nobody even seems to care. Why is that? It is because there is no doctrine. We have had generation after generation after generation after generation of

men and women taking that doctrine from us. Now we cannot discern what is right and what is wrong.

So churches say, "Well, we are going to have a gay pastor." "Well, Sister so-and-so, she is a lesbian, we are going to have her teach this, she is going to be a deacon, or we are going to let her be a pastor." Nobody even understands why because we have been progressive. We want to accept everybody. We want to let everybody in. We want everybody to come and feel comfortable here. I do not want everybody feeling comfortable here this morning. I do not. I want the Holy Spirit of God to walk up and down these aisles and tap you on your forehead. I want you to look deep inside yourself whenever that message is preached, not because I am preaching because it is coming from an absolute standard. I want it to penetrate down to the very depths of your soul and to search yourself out. I do not want you sitting here where everything is so nice and fuzzy and warm and cozy that you just get a nice fuzzy feeling and never get convicted about anything. That is not going to do you any good. We are all sinners. We all have things in our lives and we all need accountability. I cannot keep people accountable, nor anybody will be accountable when there is not an absolute final authority that keeps us all accountable. It has to be the Bible. That is why we stand on it. That is why we will never change our position.

I know where my roots are, doctrinally. I know where I came from. My home church, Canton Baptist Temple. Harold Henniger was the pastor there. He is one of J. Frank Norris' boys. That makes J. Frank Norris my spiritual grandfather. I used to ask Dr. Henniger, I would say, "What was it like to be with J. Frank Norris?" He would say, "Oh, then it was wild." He said, "We finally got our thing down there. He had a radio program every day and we would be walking through the campus and he would look around and he would grab somebody and he would say, 'Come on, you are preaching today.'" He put them on the radio. He was a wild, he was called a Texas tornado man. I mean, he would tear it up. One guy, one time, he preached on everything against everybody that was wrong. I mean, he was the most hated man in America. There were times when somebody said, "J. Frank Norris, do not you know that downtown they are having a big rally and they want to hang you and they got a rope down there and they are going to come out to get you." You know what he did? Most pastors would get out of town. He drove right down to that crowd and get up on the back of somebody's pickup truck and preach the gospel to them and 20 guys got saved. He was something else.

He had a guy one time that was, he was preaching against liquor and one guy at a time was a big bootlegger and all those things. He was talking about J. Frank Norris and trying to slander him and said, "I am going to kill him and I am going to have him wiped out." The guy was driving down the street one day or one night with two of his girlfriends in the car. He was married to his girlfriends in the car, going down there and turn the corner. They are all drunk as a skunk, turn that thing in the car, he had a big old thing, people all over the place. The guy was splattered all over the place. J. Frank Norris went down, picked up a piece of his brain, put it in a mason jar, screwed it up and put it on the pulpit on Sunday morning and preached on the wages of sin is death. Try that today. You could not get away with that if you did somebody's counsels. He was something else.

A guy called him up on the phone one time and he says, "You blankety blank preacher, I am going to come over and blow your blankety blank head off." J. Frank Norris said, "I will be here at a blankety blank three o'clock." Guy went into his office, pulled out a gun, told J. Frank Norris, outdrew him and shot him in his own office right there. He was from that point on, he was called a sick shooting preacher. Something else. I do not agree with everything he did. You came in my office and say you are going to kill me, I would not shoot you. I just get some of you women's chocolate chip cookies that you are bringing here and give you them. I am going to give you some heart speed. I do not agree with everything he did. I would not say to you young guys, "Be like him." I would not. I do not want to be like him. I am not him. But there is one thing about him that he did for me. He instilled into me that we have to stand for something. I may not stand the same way he did. You can slander me all you want. You get in a car wreck, I am not going to ask the undertaker for part of your brain. Probably before they take him so long to find it. That is not my style. I am not going to do things like that. But that was his style. But he took on everybody that came on. You know why he took them on? He took them on because the whole Baptist world was in apostasy and J. Frank Norris took them all on for one reason at the end of the day. When God needed a nuclear power sledgehammer to break the back of the Southern Baptist church and break the big cronies and go toe to toe with them, He found it in a nuclear power sledgehammer called J. Frank Norris. But he did it at the end of the day for one reason, folks, one reason. Do not criticize him too much. Do not think of the things that I say and discount him as some wild man. He did it at the end of the day for one reason. That is that you and I could have the truth that we have today. Because without him, we would not have it.

Next week I am going to show you the major doctrine that they throw out that once they believe, now they do not believe him anymore. While this is a word of prayer, there will be no meeting today for the restart people. Show up down there a quarter till and we will get it restart. You know what is going on. The teams are not going out today. Christians people want to meet up front here.