## Christian Doctrine Introduction

#### What Is Christian Doctrine?

The basic concept of the word "doctrine" refers to "something that is taught." Christian doctrine, therefore, refers to those things taught in God's Word revealing what God wants us to know about Himself and the world around us.

Christian Doctrine: The teachings we gather from Scripture that reveal to us the truth about God and reality.

## Why Study Christian Doctrine?

The study of Christian doctrine serves several purposes:

- > It reveals to us <u>truth</u>.
  - It reveals truth about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Scriptures, mankind, sin, salvation, future events (etc.), giving us a correct perspective of the world we live in (John 17:17; I John 5:20).
  - It reveals God's work of redemption. It is truth that leads to salvation (John 8:31-32).
- > It gives us a framework to <u>live</u> in.
  - It gives us <u>instructions</u> on how we should live (II Tim. 3:16-17; I John. 3:18-19).
  - What we <u>believe</u> determines how we <u>think</u> and how we act (Titus 3:8).
- ➤ It combats <u>error</u> and <u>false</u> teaching.
  - We must first know the <u>truth</u> in order to recognize error (II Tim. 2:15).
  - It enables us to <u>defend</u> the truth against error (I Pet. 3:15; II Tim. 4:3-5).
- > It matures us in our <u>faith</u>.
  - It enables us to become grounded in what we believe (Eph. 4:14).
  - It gives us <u>motivation</u> to live godly (Col. 2:6-7).

This doctrinal series will cover all the major aspects of theology with the intent of not only examining God's Word, but also giving us a greater motivation to live for Him!

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