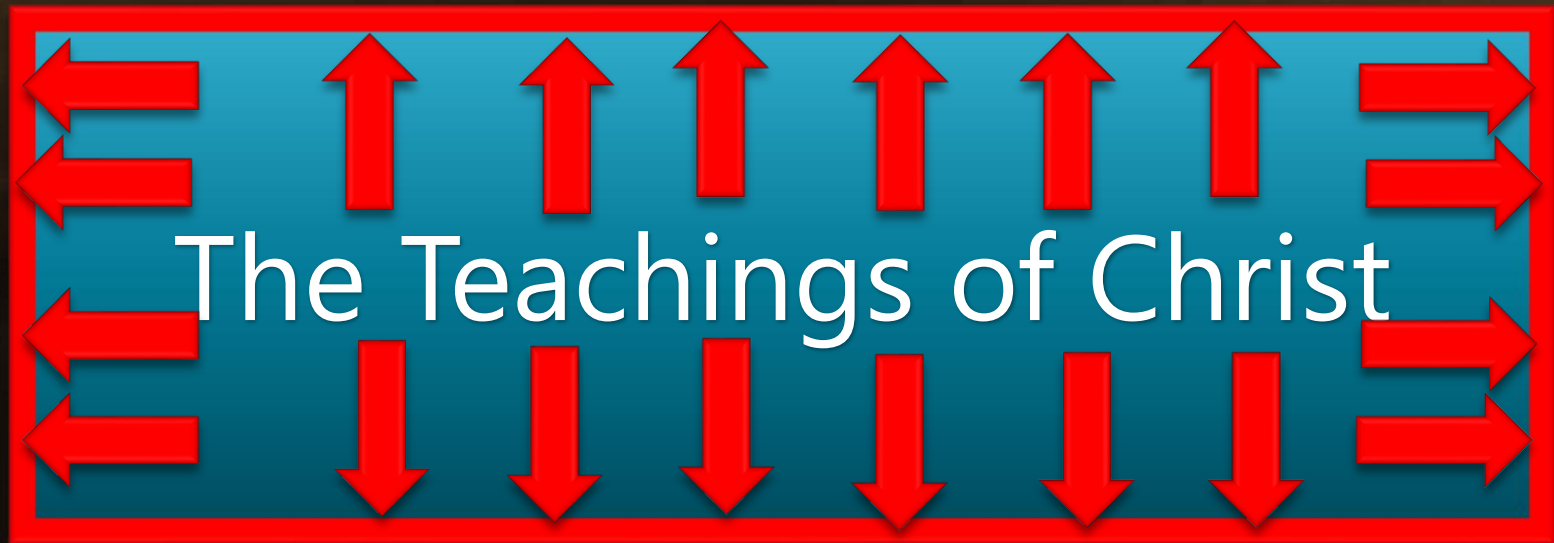


An Awesome Responsibility

- *Whosoever goes onward and abides not in the teaching of Christ, has not God: he that abides in the teaching, the same has both the Father and the Son. 10 If any one comes unto you, and brings not this teaching, receive him not into (your) house, and give him no greeting: 11 for he that gives him greeting partakes in his evil works. 2Jn 9-11*
- Assessments must be made.
- A criteria must be established.
- This is possible and there must be a way to assess, judge, and draw conclusions.

- There must be a clear boundary easily identified or this passage is meaningless.
- Respect boundaries we have Father and Son
- Pass beyond boundaries we don't have God
- What do these words mean in a world of denominations / human wisdom in churches



Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make your free." Jn 8:31-32



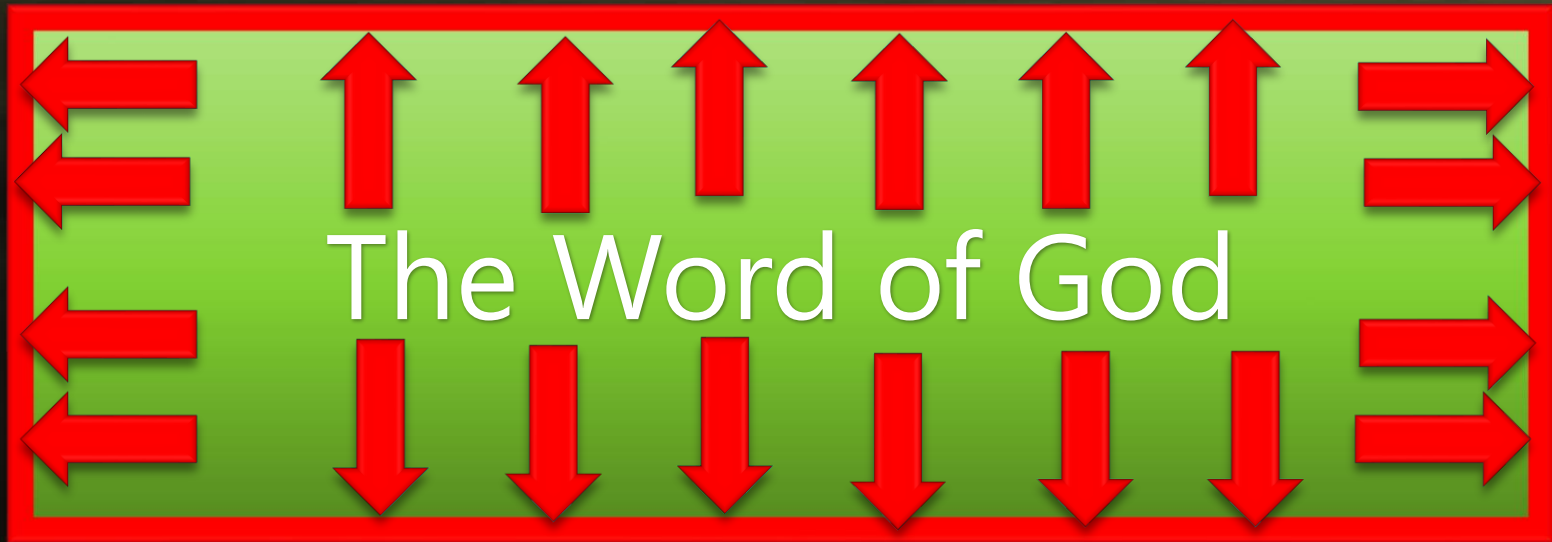
- If we abide we are truly His disciples.
- We know the truth are made free
- If we do not abide we are NOT His Disciples

A Clearer Defined Line --- Can't Cross

- *Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Mt 7:13-15*
- If we listen to men today – this is meaningless.



- *He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 7 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men Mk 7:6-8*
- Today world is full of man's tradition and almost empty of God's Word



Keep My Commandments / Word

- *12 If you love Me, **keep My commandments**.*
- *"**If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;** and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 **He who does not love Me does not keep My words;** and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. Jn 14:12; 23-24*
- *If you **keep My commandments**, you will abide in My love, **just as I have kept My Father's commandments** and abide in His love. Jn 15:10*
- *Where are Jesus Commandments? Not Meaningless, of absolute importance*

- *teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Mt 28:20*
- The apostles fulfilled their responsibilities perfectly. If they hadn't Jesus could not be with us to the end of the age.
- When we keep their commandments we keep Jesus commandments



- *We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 1 John 4:6*



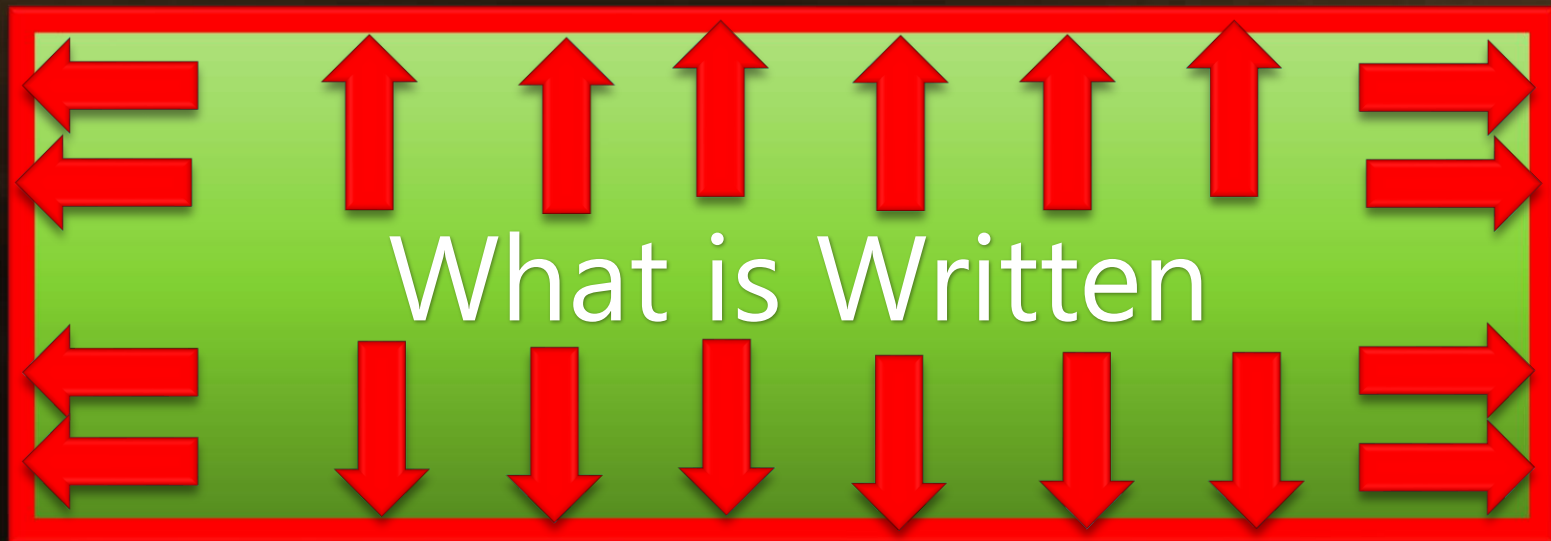
- *Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you **all speak the same thing**, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be **perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.** 1 Cor 1:10-11*



- If churches are speaking different things, one or both of them are wrong.
- We need a church where all speak the same.



- *I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. 1 Cor 4:6-7*
- We must not go beyond what is written



- *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Mt 7:21-23*
- Nothing else is used as a criteria. If we do the Father's will as recorded in Scripture we do the Father's will and not our own.

- If we do not want to hear:
- *'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'*
- We must not do our own will not found in the Scriptures, but the will of God in the Scriptures.



● *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. Pr. 3:5-7*



The Solution to the Duty

- *These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. Acts 17:11-12*
- *eugenes* of noble birth, of high rank, Lk 19:12, of a man of high rank. "nobleman" or "prince," 1 Cor 1:26, of noble in the social sense (
- *eugenes* an adjective, lit., "well born" (eu, "well," and genos, "a family, race
- God considers those who search the Scriptures daily to find the truth are noble, high born.