

A Warning Against Foolishness

The Apostle Paul has just urged Titus to insist upon the essential features of the gospel so that Christians on Crete would do good works motivated by gratitude and love for God. Paul immediately turns to those things that the faithful minister will avoid at all costs. Too often our ministry to the people in our lives is badly compromised by our failure to heed God's commands on what we are to avoid.

1. Behaviors to Avoid

- a. Quarreling and arguing about debatable topics
- b. Because these things are:
 - i. Unprofitable
 - ii. Worthless

2. People to Avoid

- a. Those who unrepentantly "stir up division"
- b. Because they are:
 - i. Warped
 - ii. Sinful
 - iii. Self-condemned

Application:

1. Are you caught in the sin of quarreling about things that are debatable? Are you a divisive person?
2. Are you able to receive a warning from a Christian brother or sister? From a pastor or elder?
3. Have you encountered the goodness and kindness of the God who can redeem even the warped, sinful, and self-condemned?