

Resisting a worldly culture in the church

**Titus 1:10-16**

# BUILDING A HEALTHY CHURCH

Issues that must be addressed

(1) Spiritual immaturity

(2) Influence of the world

# STOPPING IMPURE DOCTRINE GROWING IN THE CHURCH

## Titus 1:9-11

...holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to **exhort and convict those who contradict.** For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose **mouths must be stopped**, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain

# False teachers and teachings

- Command: They must be stopped!
- Effect = DESTRUCTIVE.  
They subvert (undermine) whole households in the church! (v11)
- Main characteristic = insubordinate (v10).

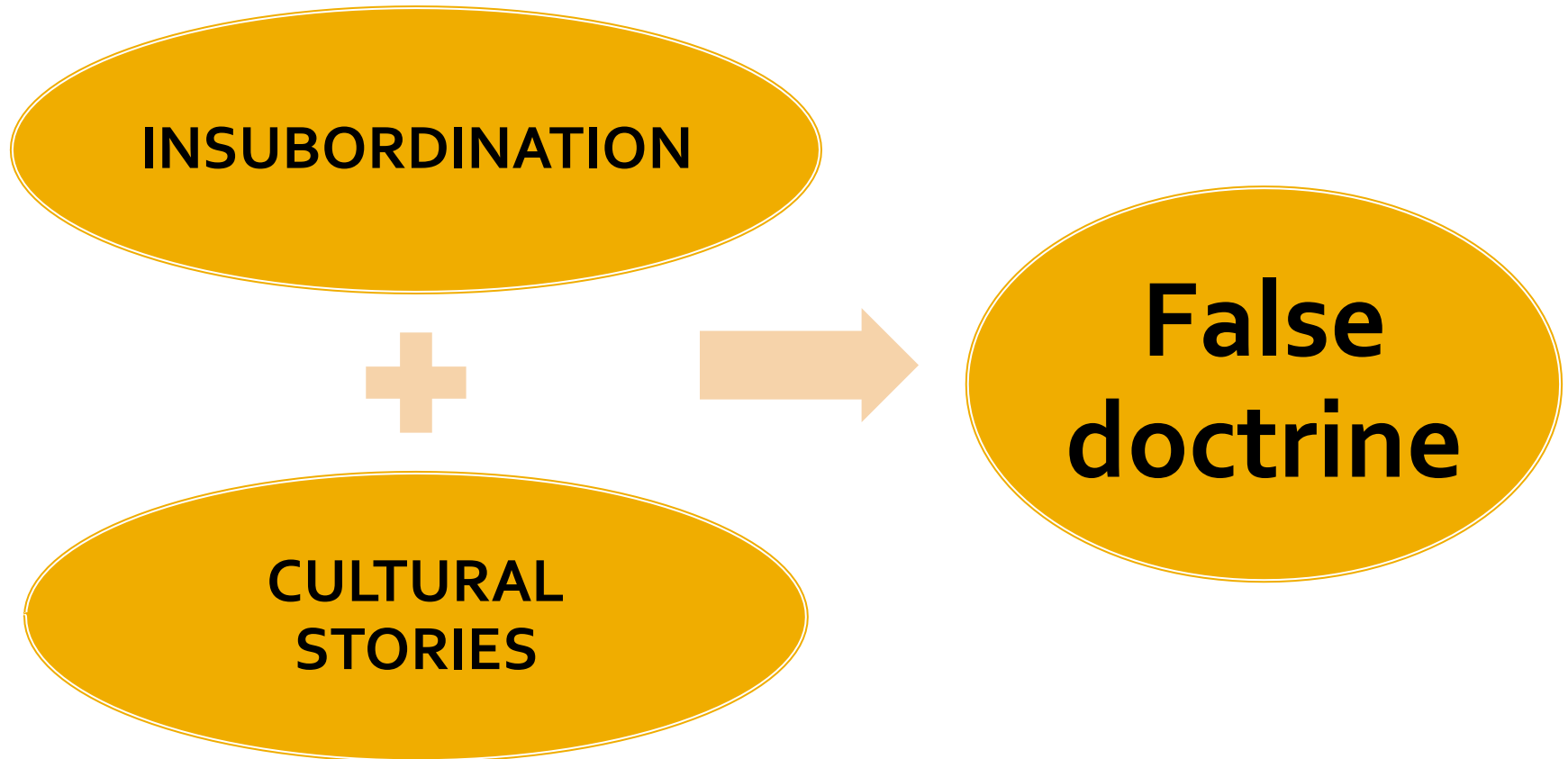
# Insubordinate...

- Not willing to be UNDER authority
  - Idle talkers (v10). Promoting Jewish fables (v14)
  - Deceivers (v10) . Not telling the TRUTH

# False doctrine

- Things people would rather believe.

# Doctrine that people would rather hear



# False doctrine IN the church

- *... false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For **Satan himself** transforms himself into an angel of light.*

2 Corinthians 11:13-14



# Questions

- Are you SUBORDINATE to God and his word? (or are there parts of God's word you would rather not talk about, or pay much attention to?)
- How are you influenced by the dominant CULTURAL STORIES of our day?

# RESISTING IMPURE CULTURE BEING IMPORTED INTO THE CHURCH

- Building a 'culture' in the church
- The Cretan Culture:

*One of them, a prophet of their own, has said, "Cretans are always **liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons**". This testimony is true. (v12)*

# The Cretan Culture

- Don't care about TRUTH (Liars! Deceivers!)
- Only care about GETTING WHAT THEY WANT in as EASY a way as possible (Lazy gluttons!)

- *Therefore REBUKE THEM SHARPLY! That they may be sound in the faith, not giving heed to Jewish fables or the COMMANDMENTS OF MEN who turn from the truth. (Vv13-14)*

# 'The commandments of men'

- Sound right at first
- Designed to make you feel good about yourself
- Designed to allow you to get what you want!

# What are the 'commandments of men' that you have allowed to influence you?

- ...relationships?
- ... wealth?
- ... work? ...education? ...career?
- ... obedience to the God's law?

THEY TURN YOU FROM THE TRUTH (v14)

# REAL PURITY COMES THROUGH 'BELIEVING' (vv15-16)

- *To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.*

# If God makes you pure, you are completely PURE

- Isaiah 1:18

*Though your sins are like scarlet,  
They shall be as white as snow;  
Though they are red like crimson,  
They shall be as wool.*



# You are also cleansed from your continuing sin

*1 John 7:7-9*

*But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

# Unbelief makes all religious activity useless.

- *To the pure all things are pure, **but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure**; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. (v15)*

*They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and **disqualified** for every good work. (v16)*

- DO NOT BE UNBELIEVING,  
BUT BELIEVING

(John 20:26)

