The Goal of Sound Doctrine

1 Timothy 1:3-7

Introduction: There is something far more important than our physical health, and that is our <u>spiritual health</u>.

1 Timothy 4:8

The word "sound" is a medical term.

Matthew 12:13; 15:31; Mark 5:34; Luke 5:31; Acts 4:10; 3 John 2

Sound doctrine is doctrine or teaching that produces spiritual <u>health</u> in the person who hears it and obeys it.

Key Truth: The Gospel will begin a work in you from which love springs forth.

Observations about the False Teachers:

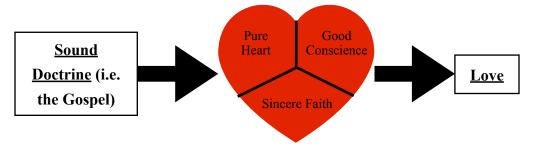
1. They were teaching <u>different</u> doctrine.

Sound doctrine is teaching that accords with the Gospel.

- 2. They were <u>devoted</u> to myths and endless genealogies.
- 3. The result was a focus on speculations.

The Gospel was being <u>sidelined</u> so that useless speculations could be entertained!

Wherever the Gospel is at the <u>center</u>, <u>love</u> will be flourishing.



I. Pure Heart

A. The Heart is Purified by the Gospel

Titus 2:11-14; Ephesians 5:25-26

B. The Heart Must Be Kept Pure by the Gospel

2 Corinthians 7:1

Personal holiness (purity of heart) will always produce <u>love</u>. Where <u>love</u> is absent, personal holiness is most assuredly absent.

II. Good Conscience

According to Scripture your conscience has a three-fold function:

- 1) it <u>urges</u> right and <u>hinders</u> wrong;
- 2) it passes judgment on thoughts and actions;
- 3) it produces guilt.

III. Sincere Faith

Galatians 5:6, "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love."

True <u>faith</u> always expresses itself in <u>love</u>.