



1 Timothy 1:2-5
**Do You Have Saving Faith
or Mere Speculation?**

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Paul's Greeting to Timothy

1 Timothy 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope, 2 To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

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True Versus False Teaching

1 Timothy 1:3-4 LEB

Just as I urged you when I traveled to Macedonia, remain in Ephesus, so that you may instruct certain people not to teach other doctrine, 4 and not to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which cause useless speculations rather than God's plan that is by faith.

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The Result of True Doctrine

1 Timothy 1:5

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

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Applications

1. We must devote ourselves to knowing God through what He has revealed rather than focusing on mere mysteries and speculations like the pagans.

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Apophatic or Kataphatic?

Apophatic : Theology based on what is not said. This type of theology revels in mystery and what cannot be known.

Kataphatic: Theology based on what God has revealed. This type of theology revels in knowing God through the Scriptures.

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Our Focus: God's Revelation

Deuteronomy 29:29

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.

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Pagans Focus on Speculations!

Romans 1:21-23

For even though they knew God they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

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The Gospel Destroys Speculations

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

...for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...

The Gospel Is Not a Mystery

Romans 3:25

...whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed...

We Can and Must Know God

John 12:48

He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

1 John 5:13

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.